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THE HISTORY OF

ANCIENT WETHERSFIELD

CONNECTICUT

COMPRISING THE PRESENT TOWNS OF
WETHERSFIELD, ROCKY HILL, AND
NEWINGTON; AND OF GLASTONBURY
PRIOR TO ITS INCORPORATION IN 1693,
FROM DATE OF EARLIEST SETTLE-
MENT UNTIL THE PRESENT TIME

BASED UPON THE MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS OF THE LATE

JUDGE SHERMAN W. ADAMS,

AND

RECAST, ENLARGED, AND EDITED

BY

HENRY R. STILES, A.M., M.D.

AUTHOR OF THE HISTORY AND GENEALOGIES OF ANCIENT WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT

VOLUME I.—HISTORY

V. 1, pte. 2



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5. Dr. Francis Wharton's *Revolutionary Diplomatic Correspondence of the United States*, Washington, 1889, contains a summary of Deane's life and character, with additional letters.

6. *The Correspondence and Journals of Gen. S. B. Webb* (Deane's stepson), edited by W. C. Ford, two volumes, 1893.

7. A paper on Silas Deane by Prof. Chas. J. Stille, in *Pennsylvania Magazine*, XVIII, No. 3—from which and the prefatory sketch in the Deane Papers, No. 4 of this list, this sketch has been mostly compiled.

See, also, an article on Deane and Lafayette, in *New England Mag., New Series*, Vol. VIII.—H. R. S.]

WETHERSFIELD'S REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY ON THE SEA, IN THE NAVY, AND IN PRIVATEERS.

At the time of the Revolution, and for a long period before, Wethersfield, as a community, was largely engaged in foreign commerce (as will be best understood from a review of our chapter entitled *The Maritime History of Wethersfield*), especially in the West India trade. Her sea-captains and sailors were numerous and many vessels, owned, built and armed by her citizens were to be found in various foreign ports. It was natural, therefore that, when war with Great Britain began, these hardy sailors from this inland country town should see and quickly embrace the opportunity which it presented, both of helping their country's cause and acquiring profit as well as honor to themselves by means of *privateering*.

Among the earliest advocates of this form of warfare, was BARNABAS DEANE, of Wethersfield. On 27th of November, 1775, he wrote to his brother Silas, then a member of the Continental Congress: "In case American privateers are to be allowed to take British property in the West Indies, you are sensible that the first opportunity may be very advantageous, and as well disposed of in this Colony as anywhere; especially as the persons now applying are your good friends, and would prosecute the affair immediately. If you think there is a probability of permission from Congress, pray attempt it, as those persons desirous of adventuring are very impatient to be informed," etc.

The authority was granted, and, on the 22nd of January following, Barnabas writes, "I propose setting out this afternoon for Saybrook, to engage carpenters, timber, etc."—"pray get the plan of the Ship completed and send it by first hand." It is probable that this ship was built at Rocky Hill, where more ship-building was then carried

on than at the yard by the Cove, in Wethersfield; both yards, however, being the public property of the Town of Wethersfield. The vessel in question may have been the sloop *Revenge*, owned by Mr. Deane, and in commission in 1776. She carried a battery of eight guns and a crew of 64 men; and was probably the vessel of the same name destroyed by the British, in the Penobscot, in 1779. We may add, in this connection, that SILAS DEANE was at the head of the *very first* Naval Committee appointed by Congress, in October, 1775 before there was any Navy Department, or any cabinet officer.

In 1776, there was a privateer brig, the *Ranger*, having 14 guns and a crew of 20 men, commanded by an A. RILEY, who, in 1778, seems to have been in command of the privateer sloop *Snake*, of 4 guns and 20 men. Although there have been, probably, more sea-captains of this surname in Wethersfield, Rocky Hill and Middletown (the Cromwell portion), all descendants of John Riley, the Wethersfield settler, than of any other surname, it is quite safe to assume that this one was Capt. Ashbel Riley, of Wethersfield. In the same year (1778) his brother, Capt. JUSTUS RILEY, commanded the sloop *Hero*, of 6 guns and 40 men. He, as well as his sons, Justus, Jr., and Roswell, were traders to the West Indies. The *Hero* had been, earlier, captured and brought into Wethersfield as a prize, by the privateer sloop *Enterprise*, of which John Wright was master, and Samuel Boardman, owner or part owner, in October, 1777, and when captured, was laden with velvets, calico, broadcloth, bearskins, silks, sagathy, chalon, crape, fustian, quality, camlet, coating, linen-checks, tar-cloth, gimp, lace, etc. Thirteen men, exclusive of the officers, shared in this booty; and Boardman armed the sloop with 7 swivels and 200 shot, which he bought of Samuel Broome of New York City.¹ What was the history of the *Hero*, after its conversion into a war-vessel, we know not.

It may be here remarked that there were, at this time no Federal Courts, and consequently captured vessels were condemned as lawful prizes of war by the State Courts. So too, the General Assembly, and its Council of Safety, issued *letters of marque* to individuals, whereby they were authorized to seize the enemy's property upon the high seas, without obtaining such permission from the Naval Committee of Congress.

OZIAS GOODRICH,² in 1778, commanded the schooner *Humbird*, of

¹ See original papers in possession of W. F. J. Boardman of Hartford.

² In his *Scraps of Weth. Hist.* No. VI, published in the *Weth. Farmer*, Judge Adams corrects the statement made by him in the *Memorial Hist. of Hartford Co.*, that this was Oliver Goodrich.

four guns and twenty men; this vessel was wrecked, in 1786, at St. Eustatia.

In 1778, also, one J. COOMBS (probably Joseph), commanded a schooner, the *Independence*, of four guns and 15 men. Several of this surname were seafaring men at this date, and none such are found elsewhere than at Wethersfield.

In 1780, one JOSEPH BULKELEY was in command of the privateer schooner *Experiment*, of 12 guns and 40 men—this was probably Joseph Bulkeley, of Rocky Hill.

The brig *Jason*, Capt. SAMUEL STILLMAN, 10 guns and 25 men was in commission in 1780. Capt. Stillman was the son of Capt. Nathaniel Stillman, by his second wife (Sarah, dau. of Capt. John Allyn), was born in 1741, and died in 1794. He was reputed a very skillful navigator in his day, and in 1784 accomplished the then unparalleled feat of making three voyages to Jamaica in one year. The *Jason*, in 1781, was under command of Capt. MOSES TRYON, who had commenced privateering in 1775.

Capt. ALLYN STILLMAN, brother to the above Capt. Samuel, did the State good service, not in the fighting but in the transportation line. He imported most of the salt, and many other war supplies, and was ever most efficient, reliable and courageous in the discharge of his important responsibilities.

The sloop *Lash*, 10 guns and 15 men, was well handled in the privateering way, in 1782, by Capt. THOMAS NEWSON, an Englishman by birth; said to have been a harsh and brutal man, and who died in 1819, aged 80 years. He had several sons whom he brought up to follow the seas.

In 1777, the sloops *Swallow* and *Nonpareil* were taken as prizes. Capt. JEMIEL TINKER received eleven shares of the booty and Capt. MOSES TRYON, thirteen.¹ The mode of division in this case, indicates that the capture was the result of a joint enterprise, conducted by Captains Tinker and Tryon, each having his own vessel and that the larger share of the net proceeds (£375) was Tryon's.

Capt. WILLIAM GRISWOLD, of Rocky Hill, seems to have been engaged in privateering, as he writes to Samuel Boardman, at Wethersfield (date not given), to send down to him "the swivel and swivel balls, immediately."² It may be that these guns were needed for the *Minerva*, then fitting out.—See p. 502.

¹ *Rec. of Conn. Men in the War of the Revolution.*

² The "swivel" was a small cannon, with a very small bore, measuring from 1 to 1½ inches, and the largest balls weighed but 1½ pounds. They were without

WILLIAM ROBBINS' sloop, the *Betsy*, in 1776, carried two swivel guns, though this may have only been for defensive purposes.

There was, in 1779, a sloop *Dolphin*, 4 guns and 14 men, commanded by a Capt. A. BURNHAM—but, as there were several sloops having this name, as well as many seamen of the Burnham name in Wethersfield, at this time, it is not possible to certainly credit this sloop, or her master to Wethersfield.

We have also found mention of the privateer sloop *Active*, 10 guns and 60 men, C. BUCHLEY, Captain; and of the schooner *Experiment*, 12 guns and 80 men, E. BULSLEY, captain, and the brig *Marshall*, 14 guns and 80 men, E. BULKLEY, which look very much like Wethersfield concerns.¹

The schooner *Fair Trader* which, in 1782, was privateering, with 4 guns and 14 men, was a Wethersfield vessel and if so, JOHN WEEB commanded her. The General Assembly had ceased to permit privateering from this State, after 1780, for the reason that the rush to the sea was depleting the stock of able-bodied men needed for the army. But other States and the Continental Congress still permitted this mode of warfare, and probably, in some cases, old *letters of marque* were continued in force.

A thorough examination of Court records, the Council of Safety records, files of old newspapers (especially the *Connecticut Courant* and the *Connecticut Gazette*, this last published at New London), would reveal the names of other Wethersfield men and vessels engaged in privateering; but enough has been shown, we think to show that the old Town had its share of honor and profit in this privateering feature of the Revolutionary period.

WETHERSFIELD MEN IN THE CONTINENTAL NAVY.

At the outbreak of the War of the Revolution there existed no American Navy, as such; and the only war vessels in commission on the patriot side were a few which had been purchased, chartered or constructed by the governments of some of the seaboard States; or, a little later, by the efforts of the Naval Committees of the Continental Congress. The first armed vessels provided by Connecticut in the Revolution were the brigantine *Minerva*, and the sloop *Spy*. Later, we find

trunnions and not mounted on carriages, but on a pivot or "swivel" so that they might be turned and aimed quickly in any direction—hence the name. These privateers' swivels were made by the State, at the foundry at Salisbury and, like most of the ordnance of that day, were not of first-class quality.

in service the *Defence* (built in 1748) and a new brig-of-war, by the same name; the State man-of-war *Oliver Cromwell*, built at Saybrook in 1776, the Continental frigate *Trumbull*, built at Chatham on the Connecticut River, in 1777; also the frigate *Confederacy*, built on the Thames, in 1778.

The "old *Defence*" referred to above was commanded, in May, 1744, by JEDIDIAH DUDLEY, who had succeeded James Rogers. In 1748 she was purchased by Mr. Jabez Huntington, of Norwich, Conn., for the sum of £4,860. The inventory of her "war-like stores," made 26th November of that year, was as follows: 14 carriage guns, with carriages; 14 swivel guns; 236 swivel shot; 316 cannon shot; 65 double-head shot; 107 hand "grenadoes"; 10 small iron-crows; 47 lances; 5 crab-handspikes; 36 sponges, or rammers; 30 w^d langrel; 1 chain and grapling; 19 shackles; 1 caboose iron; 97 small guns; 91 pistols; 91 cartouch boxes; 97 cutlasses; 4 priming wires; sundry items, in powder-horns, etc. Both the *Defence* and *Spy* were old merchantmen, remodelled for war purposes.

This was probably the same *Defence*, chartered by the State, which cruised off Boston in the fall of '76 and captured several valuable prizes, and also engaged in sharp and successful actions with Capt. Harding's and other British vessels. In April, '78, she and the *Cromwell* fought and captured the *Admiral Keppel* and *Cyrus*, English privateers, and brought them into Boston.¹

In the whole course of the war, Connecticut contributed 26 vessels—including those built by the State, as well as those constructed by the Committees of Congress; and several which were not completed in time to be put in service; and also including three war-galleys having each 60 feet keel and a crew of 50 oarsmen—their only means of propulsion. Thus, Connecticut took a leading part in the naval operations of the war, and Wethersfield attained a greater prominence as a factor in these operations, than she ever has since in those of a like nature.

Among the sea-captains hailing from Wethersfield at the outbreak of Revolutionary hostilities, one WILLIAM GRISWOLD, of Stepney parish, stands out most prominently against the historic background. A descendant of Michael Griswold the settler, he was left an orphan, ran away and followed the seas, and while still quite a young man, visited London, where his manly and intelligent appearance captivated the affections of a Miss Martha Tapley, a lady of some wealth, whom he

¹ An interesting history of the *Defence* will be found in the *Hartford Courant*, of Dec. 4, 1884, in a paper read by Judge S. W. Adams before the Connecticut Historical Society Dec. 2, '84, entitled "The First Vessel of the Connecticut Navy."

married and with whom he returned to his native place, Rocky Hill. Here he built and was the owner of the brigantine *Minerva*, of 108 tons. When, in July, 1775, a committee of the Council of Safety, of Connecticut, was sent out to look up vessels suitable to be converted into war vessels, their choice fell upon the *Minerva*; and, accordingly, on August 31st of that year, she was chartered by the State, at the rate of £37 11s per month; Capt. Giles Hall, of Wallingford (who had commanded Connecticut's only war vessel, the *Defence*, twenty years before), was placed in command; and under his and Capt. Griswold's supervision she was fitted out (partly at Rocky Hill—where, probably, her sides were pierced with port-holes for her guns) and she took on her ammunition at Middletown—powder and balls from New London, and 300 pounds of lead from Wethersfield. In September, 1775, Peter Goodrich of Middletown, Upper Houses, had prepared 5,425 pounds of bread for the *Minerva*, when, just as he was about to send it aboard, his house was destroyed by fire, and with it the bread. By October, the vessel—manned with 40 seamen and marines, and a full complement of commissioned and non-commissioned officers, was ordered upon a cruise; whereupon the crew (with exception of 10 or 12 men), refused to do duty. In extenuation of this mutiny, it must be remembered that Connecticut, at that time, was still a British Colony—war not having as yet been declared. The Colonists, up to this time had been acting simply upon the defensive, and the sending out of this *first* war vessel by the Colony was probably deemed uncalled for by the situation. However, a new crew was soon procured, and the vessel, having been supplied with provisions by Jeremiah Wadsworth, of Hartford, proceeded on a six months' cruise, which ended without any extraordinary event, save that Capt. Ephraim Bill (afterwards commander of the *Oliver Cromwell*) was placed in command. Upon her return from the cruise, June, 1776, she was relieved of her armament at New Haven and re-delivered to her owner at Rocky Hill. While at New Haven, four of her guns, with some ammunition, were transferred to the State war-galley *Whiting*; and later in the year, six of her guns were taken and fitted to carriages, as field pieces. But, in April, 1778, the *Minerva* appears as the property of the State, and in March of the same year, the State had sold Capt. Griswold sixteen four-pounders and six-pounders from its foundry at Salisbury. So that it may be inferred that Capt. Griswold first fitted out the vessel for war purposes, and then sold her to the State. In 1781, she was owned, or held under charter by the United States; she then carried 16 guns and a crew of 100 men, and was again under command of

Capt. Giles Hall. Later, she was commanded by Capt. DUDLEY SALTONSTALL, and her crew was 120 men. Whether she carried heavier guns than at first, is not known: but, as nine-pounders were the heaviest generally carried by our war vessels—as against the 24-pounders of some of the British men-of-war, the *Minerva* had but little chance to cope with any but the smaller of the enemy's vessels.

Captain Griswold, during the Revolutionary period, was largely engaged in ship-building and mercantile operations at Rocky Hill, and, perhaps, at the Cove, in Wethersfield. He was, also, a partner with Capt. Barnabas Deane, Capt. John Wright and Capt. Justus Riley: and perhaps, in that fact lies the reason why he did not take the command of the *Minerva* when she became the first war vessel sent out by the Colony, in that war. He built and resided in the large red house which, some years ago, became, in a remodelled form, Green's Hotel, at Rocky Hill.

[Capt. MOSES TRYON was another native of Wethersfield, of whom we would gladly know more than we do. He was born in the Village of Wethersfield, November 18, 1750, and his ancestors for several generations had been Wethersfield people. It is probable that he was bred to the mercantile profession, and, as was quite common in those days, became a supercargo, or master of some vessel plying between Connecticut and the West Indies.

He served an excellent apprenticeship in the seamanship of war, as captain of the *Jason*, brig of 10 guns and 25 men. This vessel was built and owned at Rocky Hill, and was probably the same which, during a part of the same war, was commanded by Capt. Stillman, a noted veteran sea-captain of Wethersfield. The absence of any Navy-List prior to 1816, precludes our knowing when he entered the United States Navy, but it was probably not much earlier than 1794, at which date our Navy was first placed upon a permanent basis. He also served in other privateer vessels during the Revolutionary War. After the close of the war, and in 1795, at the age of 45, he was commissioned a captain in the United States Navy, the highest rank then attainable in the service. In the squadron of Barry and Decatur, he commanded the *Connecticut*, 24 guns, built at Middletown, Conn., by the United States and was distinguished for bravery and ability in the war with the Barbary powers. His vessel was a companion of the *Philadelphia*, commanded by Commodore Stephen Decatur: and it related that once, when their vessels met, Decatur asked of Tryon, if his vessel was "a good sailor"? Tryon replied, "she will sail with picaroons," alluding to a class of French privateers which he had

lately been overhauling. "Are you disposed to try it?" asked Decatur. "If you please, Sir," was the answer. The sailing match came off, and the *Connecticut* twice ran the *Philadelphia* "hull down." The next day Decatur entertained Capt. Tryon and his officers on the *Philadelphia*, and jocosely proposed to exchange ships with him. In 1800, Tryon was still in command of the *Connecticut*, in the West India squadron, then engaged in the capture of French privateers. Upon the reduction of the Navy, in 1801, Capt. Tryon was of those dropped from the rolls. He was probably in poor health, as he died in 1817, and was buried in Wethersfield. His monument bears the following inscription: "Beneath this stone are deposited the remains of Capt. MOSES TRYON, U. S. N., born 18th November, 1750. He sustained the various relations of life with dignity and usefulness. In the duties of private life, he was faithful, just and benevolent. As a Naval Officer vigilant and brave. As a Citizen firmly attached to the liberties, and devoted to the laws of his country. Of unblemished morals, a firm believer and a humble disciple of Jesus Christ, he resigned his soul to God, 27th December, 1817. "The memory of the just is blessed."

A rare little volume entitled *The Wandering Boy, Careless Sailor, and Result of Inconsideration*. A true narrative, by Horace Lane, * * * (Skaneateles; printed for the author by Luther A. Pratt, 1839, 12mo., pp. 224), preserves for us a picture of Capt. Moses Tryon and an estimate of his character which we are glad to have. The author, a wandering laddie of about ten years in May, 1799, became a cabin boy on the new U. S. ship *Connecticut*, then first launched and fitted out at Middletown, Conn., under the command of Capt. Tryon. Immediately after her launch and by some mismanagement, she capsized and filled with water, and when freed from it, and again able to float, she proceeded to New London, where they took in ballast, stores, arms and ammunition, recruited and set out for the West Indies, to operate against the French privateers there annoying our commerce, and to which he says "she soon became a terror." Capt. Tryon seems to have had a fatherly care for his little cabin boy, who says: "He was truly my friend—one of the finest men as to morals, that ever crossed the ocean; his name was Moses Tryon, his dwelling was in Wethersfield, Conn. Often, when the ship was riding majestically through the waves, he would call me to him, tell me how to behave myself in order to become a noble character, and point out to me in the most pellucid colors that language could exhibit, the fatal consequences of vain habits; adding, 'What a fine thing it would be

for you to have command of such a ship as this, when you became a man!’ This language to me was as vanity and folly; and I told him that it was impossible, for my father was a poor man, etc. He endeavored to convince me of my mistake, but all his efforts to save me were useless and lost.”

On this cruise, Lane says the *Connecticut* took four French privateers, retook seven merchantmen, chased one ashore and burned her, and chased several others on shore under the French batteries, which protected them from seizure.

Capt. Tryon resided in the house next north of the meeting-house, one of those burned in the conflagration of 1833. He had a son Moses, who is said to have removed to Rochester, N. Y. See *Genealogies*, Vol. II.—II. R. S.]

There was a Lieut. ISAAC BUCK, U. S. N., in 1781; and, as so large a proportion of the Buck surname are descendants either of Emanuel or Henry Buck—the Wethersfield settlers, we may reasonably claim him as of Wethersfield origin. In 1777, the war brig *America*, then stationed off Fairfield, was commanded by one who bore so good a Wethersfield name as JOHN NOTT.

That BENJAMIN CATLIN (Sergeant in Capt. Chester’s company at Bunker Hill, and taken a prisoner in the Quebec campaign of ’75), subsequently became a man-of-war’s man, is known from his own letters. In July, 1777, he wrote from on board the frigate *Trumbull*, “We live in clover, assure you, the most agreeable life I ever lived”—and adds a request (to Mr. Samuel Boardman, his old master) that some boards be saved, so that he can finish his house, when he returns home. He was probably a warrant officer; or an officer in the marine corps.

A LIST OF PERSONS, IDENTIFIED. EITHER BY BIRTH, OR RESIDENCE,
WITH WETHERSFIELD, WHO SERVED IN THE WAR OF THE REVOLU-
TION.

Compiled from authentic Official¹ and Historical Sources,

BY HENRY R. STILES, M. D.

Great care has been taken to insert in this list, the names only of those who *actually* served, either in the Continental Line, or in details of Militia regiments. Names found upon the rolls of the *Alarm List* of the Sixth Militia Regiment, have also been included—since, as these Alarm Lists (See p. 465) formed a *militia reserve* for sudden calls, or emergencies, their members were liable for field duty, and were probably often so employed—though no official record may remain to show the nature, or extent, of such duty.

Owing to the great number of cases in which persons of the same name were living in the old town-ship, it has been difficult to distinguish whether they belonged to Wethersfield proper, or to its other parishes, Stepney (now the Town of Rocky Hill), or Newington parish, now the town of the same name. The MSS. of Dr. R. W. GRISWOLD has helped us somewhat as to Stepney; the Historical Address of ROGER WELLES, E-sq., as to Newington; and Dr. CHAPIN's *Glastonbury Centennial* as to that town. So that, we trust, our list will be found, as our endeavor has been to make it, a fairly reliable list of Wethersfield's contributions towards the independence of our country.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS CHAPTER.

<i>acc.</i> —according to	<i>cr.</i> —credited	<i>L. I.</i> —Long Island
<i>add.</i> —additional	<i>complx.</i> —complexion	<i>Memb.</i> —member
<i>app.</i> —appointed	<i>d.</i> —died	<i>Mil.</i> —Militia
<i>batt.</i> —battalion	<i>des.</i> —deserted	<i>Must.</i> —mustered
<i>bd.</i> —bound	<i>disch.</i> —discharged	(<i>N.</i>)—Newington
<i>biog.</i> —biography	<i>drag.</i> —dragoons	<i>org.</i> —organization
<i>brig.</i> —brigade, or brigadier	<i>eng.</i> —engaged	<i>poss.</i> —possibly
<i>Capt.</i> —captain	<i>enl.</i> —enlisted	<i>pris.</i> —pri-oner
<i>Co.</i> —company	<i>ens.</i> —en-si-gn	<i>prob.</i> —probably
<i>Col.</i> —colonel	<i>exc.</i> —exchanged	<i>prom.</i> —promoted
<i>Conn.</i> —Connecticut	(<i>Glast.</i>)—Gla-stonbury	<i>Q. M.</i> —quarter master
<i>comm.</i> —commission	<i>H. C.</i> —Harvard College	<i>reg.</i> —regiment
<i>Commiss.</i> —Commi-sary	<i>Lex.</i> —Lexington	<i>rep.</i> —representative
<i>Cont.</i> —Continental	<i>Lieut.</i> —Lieutenant	<i>res.</i> —resigned
<i>corp.</i> —corporal	<i>Lt.</i> —Light	<i>res'd.</i> —resided

¹ Especially *The Record service of Connecticut men in the Military and Naval service during the War of the Revolution, 1775-1783*, edited by Henry P. Johnston, A. M., and published by the State; and F. B. Heitmans' *List of Regular Officers in the Continental Army*, 1893.

<i>Sgt.</i> —sergeant	<i>trans.</i> —transferred	<i>Weth.</i> —Wethersfield
<i>schr.</i> —schooner	<i>vol.</i> —volunteer	<i>Y. C.</i> —Yale College
<i>slp.</i> —sloop	<i>wed.</i> —wounded	<i> yrs.</i> —years
<i>(S.)</i> —Stepney	<i>West.</i> —Westchester	

- ADAMS, AMASA, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; in Capt. E. Wright's (3d Co.) 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- ANDREWS, JOSEPH, (poss. Glast.), enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, May 11; prom. Corp. 20 Oct., disch. 17 Dec., 1776, present at Siege of Boston.
- ANDRUS, ASA, in Cont. service, 1778.—See p.
- ANDRUS, ABNER, in Cont. service, 1778.—See p. 466.
- ANDRUS, DANIEL, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- ANDRUS, JOHN, enl. in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3d Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- ANDRUS, JOSEPH, a 6 mos. recruit, 7 Aug., 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Magazine*.
- ANDRUS, MILES, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- ANDRUS, MOSES, must. in at Ft. Independence, Sept. 2, 1775.—See his letter, p.—Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- ANTHONY, JAMES, a 6 mo. recruit, 18 July, 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- ATWOOD, JOHN, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- ATWOOD, JOSEPH, a 6 mos. recruit, 18 July, 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- BACON, RICHARD, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; enl. Capt. Wyll's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 8th May, 1777, for the war: pris. Dec. 10, 1777; rejoined 1778.
- BALCH, JONATHAN, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th Co.) 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 11 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1776, at Boston.
- BALDWIN, NATHANIEL, 6 mos. recruit, 23 July-4 Dec., 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- BARCE, MICHAEL, enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn., Reg., Col. Spencer, 13 May, disch. 5 July, 1776, before Boston.
- BARNS, JOHN, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.—See *Barnes Genealogy*. A John Barns, who was one of 22 capt. by the Br. from the Weth. vessel *Gen. Greene* in 1782; d. in N. Y., a prisoner.—*Step. Ch. Rec.*
- BARTON, JOSEPH, in Col. Canfield's Mil. Reg., at West Point, Sept., 1782.
- BELDEN, ELISHA, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
June, 1778.
- BELDEN, ABRAHAM, was in Cont. service, 1778.
- BELDEN, BENJAMIN, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.
- BELDEN, ELISHA, (S.), in Lex., Alarm Co., 1775.
- BELDEN, EZEKIEL PORTER, (Capt. in Cont. Drag.), son of Thomas, grad. Y. C. 1775; 2d Lieut. in Capt. Johnson's Co., Col. Bradley's State Reg., Wadsworth's Brig., 20 June-Dec., 1776; an org. of Col. Sheldon's 2d Reg. Lt. Drag., was app. Lieut., 20 Dec., 1776; prom. Capt., 7 Apl., 1777; was prob. at Germantown, where a part of his reg. was eng.; subsequently served along the Hudson, in West. Co., N. Y., and in West. Conn.; was in several

- skirmishes, etc.; res. 10 June, 1780; after his return to civil life became a prominent citizen in Weth.; was repeatedly chosen Selectman, elected Town Clerk in 1812, and held that office until his death; was a memb. of about all the Town Comm's; Justice of the Peace, and rep. Weth. in 49 sessions of the Legislature, being also elected to two more which he declined to serve in; was for some years Lt.-Col. of the Sixth Militia Reg.; a kind, social gentleman, ready and active in pub. affairs; one of the orig. Weth. mem. of the Society of the Cincinnati.—See *Yale Biog.*, p. 305.
- BELDEN, EZRA**, in Capt. Hez. Welles' 4th Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- BELDEN, JOHN**, (Capt.), (S.), Major in Sixth Mil. Reg., 1778; app. Lieut. of Co. for service at Peekskill, N. Y., in Col. N. Hooker's Batt., Dec., 1776; prom. Major, Jan., 1778; prom., Lieut.-Col., Jan., 1780, in Sixth Mil. Reg., org. of 1776-'83, *via* Woodbridge resigned.
- BELDEN, JONATHAN**, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- BELDEN, MOSES**, in Cont. service Aug., 1778.—See p. 466.
- BELDEN, RICHARD**, in Cont. service Aug., 1778; pens.; see p. 466; (d. 31 Jan., 1848, from protracted infirmities.—R. W. G.)
- BELDEN, THOMAS**, pr. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; app. Lieut., in Sixth Mil. Reg., 1780, succeeded by Howell Woodbridge, of Glast. 1775; prom. Major 1776; prom. Lt.-Col., May, 1777; prom. Col., Jan., 1778.
- BECKLEY, BENJAMIN**, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; Lieut. in 8th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., 1781.
- BECKLEY, ELIAS**, Capt. of 8th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., 1781.
- BECKLEY, JOHN**, 3rd Lieut., Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; Lieut. in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776.
- BECKLEY, RICHARD**, enl. 26 Feb., 1778, in Capt. Savage's Co. transf. to Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., May 1, 1780; disch. 1 Jan., 1781.
- BECKLEY, SOLOMON**, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- BENTON, AMOS**, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.
- BENTON, JOHN**, Corpl. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. May 10th, 1775, in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer; disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston; prom. Corpl., 20 Oct.
- BEWERS, JONATHAN**, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, May 12; disch. 4 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- BIDWELL, DAVID**, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- BIDWELL, EPHRAIM**, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- BIDWELL, ISAAC**, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8th May; disch. 16 Nov., 1775, before Boston.
- BIDWELL, THOMAS**, (poss. of Glast.) in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- BIGELOW, ALVIN**, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- BLACKELEY, ENOS**, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, May 12; disch. Nov. 18 (or 8), 1775, before Boston.
- BLINN, ABRAHAM**, (S.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, May 13, disch. 13 Sept., 1775, before Boston.
- BLINN, HEZEKIAH**, (S.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 13 May, disch. 25 Oct., 1775, before Boston. A *Hezekiah B.*, and

his son *Zerah*, of 22 men taken by the British from the Weth. privateer *Gen. Greene*, d. in N. Y., prisoners.—*Step. Ch. Rec.*

BLINN, PETER, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.

BOARDMAN, BENAJAH, Sgt. in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.

BOARDMAN, ELIJAH, b. 1756; in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; (served at Siege of Boston, and was taken prisoner at N. Y.—*R. W. G.*); Sgt. in Capt. Watson's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., enl. for the war, 22 Apl., 1777; prom. Sgt., 20 Nov., 1777; cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778; Ens. 4th Co., 1st Mil. Reg. from Weth., Jan., 1780; later rem. to Hfd., where he became keeper of the gaol.

BOARDMAN, ISAAC, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; in same reg. Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777; enl. 4 Sept., 1777, in Capt. Wilcox's Co., Corps of Artificiers, Col. Baldwin, for 3 yrs.; d. 1779.

BOARDMAN, LEONARD, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Mch.-June, 1777, at Peekskill, N. Y.

BOARDMAN, LEVI, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.

BOARDMAN, RETURN, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.

BOARDMAN, SAMUEL, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 12 Oct., 1775, before Boston.

BOARDMAN, SETH, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 9 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston; was engaged in action at Bunker's Hill; enl. in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777; wd. at Stillwater, N. Y., 1777.

BOWERS, BENAJAH.—"a soldier of the Rev. res'd many yrs. where Chas. Butler did W. of Louis Deming's; doubtful if he was a Rocky Hill man."—*R. W. G.*

BRADLEY, GEORGE, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.

BRIGDEN, MICHAEL, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.

BROOKS, ELIJAH, (poss. Glast.) in Capt. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.

BROOKS, ELIZUR, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.

BROOKS, JONATHAN, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777; in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.

BROOKS, LEVI, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.

BROOKS, THOMAS, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 6 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston; was in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.

BROOKS, TIMOTHY, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 11 May, disch. 10 Dec., 1778, before Boston.

BROWN, EDWARD, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 11 May, disch. 10 Dec., 1778, before Boston.

BROWN, EDWARD, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 9 May, disch. 19 Oct., 1775; enl. for the war in Capt. Hart's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 25 Jan., 1777; cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778; transf. to Invalid Corps, 5 Apl., 1781.

- BROWN, HENRY, (N.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- BUCK, AMOS, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- BUCK, DANIEL, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- BUCK, DAVID, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; of Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on board sloop *Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- BUCK, JESSE, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.
- BUCK, JONATHAN, app. Ens., 2d Co., 3d Reg. Vols., June, 1776.
- BULKELEY, BURRAGE, one of the 22 men taken from the privateer brigantine, *Gen. Greenc*, 1782, by the British; d. in N. Y., a *prisoner*.
- BULKELEY, C. (Capt.), sloop *Active*.—See p.
- BULKELEY, EDWARD, (S.), son of Chas., gd-s. of Edward; b. 1741; d. 30 June, 1781; Ens. 10th Cont. Inf., 1 Jan., 1776; 1st Lieut. 3d Co., Chester's Batt. Vols., Wadsworth's Brig., June, 1776; Capt. in Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., Comm., dated 1 Jan., 1777; taken pris. on Exp. to L. I., 10 Dec., 1777, (*Heitman* says at Batt. L. I., 27 Aug., 1776), exch. 17 Dec., 1780, transf. to and Capt. in 3d Reg., Conn. Line; Brig.-Maj., Feb.-Aug., 1782; served until 3 June, 1783.
- BULKELEY, FRANCIS, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 12 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- BULKELEY, GILES, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- BULKELEY, JOHN, enl. 6 June, 1777, for war; Capt. Robt. Warner's Return of Non-effectives, 4th Co., 3d Conn. Reg., served since 1 Jan., 1777; d. 25 Dec., 1778.—*Conn. Mag.*
- BULKELEY, JOSEPH, Capt. of privateer schooner *Experiment*, 1780.
- BULKELEY, LEVI, a 6 mos. recruit, 18 July, 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg't.—*Conn. Mag.*
- BULKELEY, SOLOMON, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; app. Lieut. in 4th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., June, 1776.
- BULL, ROGER, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; app. Co. Clerk; app. May, 1776, Ens. in Co. for service at New Haven and New London.
- BUNCE, JARED, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 12 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston; cr. to Cont. Army, 1778.
- BUNCE, THOMAS, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; of Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. of sloop *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776; d. at Rocky Hill (West Dist.), 1820, ae. 72.
- BURNHAM, JAMES, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 11 May, disch. 7 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- BURNHAM, A. (Capt.), sloop *Dolphin*, 1779.
- BURNHAM, JOHN, of Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co. on board sloop *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- BURNHAM, ORRIN, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- BUTLER, CHARLES, (S.) Sgt. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; comm'd at Bunker Hill, 1 May, 1775; Ens. in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, disch. 10 Dec., 1775; 2d Lieut. 22d Cont. Inf., 1 Jan.-31 Dec, 1776; 1st Lieut. in Capt. Chester Welles' Co. Col. Baldwin's Reg. at Peekskill, April 23-May 10, 1777.
- BUTLER, EDWARD, (Capt.) orig. memb. of Soc. Cincinnati.
- BUTLER, HEZEKIAH, Corp. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; Sgt. of Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. Slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.

- BUTLER, JOHN, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 13 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- BUTLER, JOSEPH, Corp. of Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. *Slp. Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- BUTLER, JOSEPH, Corp. of Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. *slp. Anne*, bd. for N. Y., May, 1777.
- CAMP, JAMES, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-March, 1776.
- CATLIN, BENJAMIN, Corp. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; Sgt. enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co. 2nd Conn. Reg. Col. Spencer, May 9, disch. 9 Sept. 1775, before Boston; Q. M. in Arnold's Quebec Expedition, 1775, pris. at Q. 31 Dec. 1775, exch. 11 Jan. 1777, later was in naval service.
- CHAPIN, (Rev.) CALVIN, (S), afterwards pastor (tho' not then a res.) of Stepney, served as fifer in the Rev. War, at age of 10 or 12, in Capt. John Pratt's Co., who res. in N. W. part of Cromwell.
- CHESTER, JOHN, Capt. in Sixth Mil. Reg. (See p. 439) and Capt. of the Weth. Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; Capt. of 9th Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, comm'd 1 May, at Bunker Hill (in which fight he and his Co. took a part (see p. 442) disch. 17 Dec., 1775; re-enl. 1776: was Maj. of Sixth Mil. Reg. in Col. Wolcott's Brig. before Boston; prom. Maj. and later Col. in Wadsworth's Brig. See page for his military history, services and character; in the re-organization of 1775-83, was app. Lieut.-Col. of Sixth Mil. Reg., but declined and was succeeded by Howell Woodbridge.
- CHURCHILL, CHARLES, Lieut. in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., State troops, Jan.-Mch., 1776, before Boston; January, 1779, Capt. 2d Reg., 1st Mil. Brig. with his men were allowed by the Gen. Assemb. compensation for service as a guard to a train of artillery.
- CHURCHILL, JOSEPH, Lieut. 6th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg. on duty at New London; Lieut. in same Co. May, 1781.
- CHURCHILL, NATHANIEL, (N.) in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch., '76: comm'd in a Co. "for State defence" May, 1777; May, 1778, app. Lieut. in 4th Co. Alarm list, 15th Reg.; was in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- CHURCHILL, SAMUEL, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776; in Capt. Chester Welles' Co. Col. Belden's Reg. Wolcott's Brig. at Peekskill, N. Y. Mch.-June, 1771.
- CHURCHILL, SAMUEL, JR., same service record as the above in Capt. Hez. Welles' Co.
- CLAPP, ROGER, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- CLARK, CHARLES, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777; a 6 mos. recruit, Aug., 18-4 Dec., 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- CLARK, JAMES, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- CLARK, ROGER, same service record as Charles, above.
- CLARK, WILLIAM, er. to Cont. service, Aug. 1778; enl. in 1st Troop, Col. Shelden's Drag., 1 May, '78; described as farmer, dark complexion, brown hair, black eyes.
- CLOUGH, , in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co. 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- COLE, ABNER, in the Conn. line from 1 Jan.-June, 1783; retired with the army at close of war.
- COLE, GIDEON, (S.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, disch. 10 Dec. 1775, before Boston.

- COLE, SAMUEL, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776.
- COLEMAN, NATHANIEL, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd. Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 12 May, disch. 12 Sept., 1775; before Boston; taken pris. at Quebec (Arnold's exp.) not named in Capt. Hanchett's list, but reported on payrolls (or pay-table accounts) as having marched with the exp.
- COLEMAN, ZADOCK, pr. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; sailor on bd. slp. *Ann*, bd. for N. Y. Aug. 1776; in Capt. Chester Welles' Co. Col. Belden's Reg. Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill. N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.
- COLLINS, ROBERT, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., March-June, 1777.
- COLLINS, JOHN, Dep. Commissary of Mil. Stores. Col. Flowers' Artificiers. Engaged 1 Jan., 1777.—*Conn. Mag.*
- COLTON, WILLIAM, Corp. in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig. at Peekskill, N. Y., 22 April-May, 1777.
- CONE, JOSHUA, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Wells' (4th) Co. Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776; cr. to Cont. army, Aug. 1778.
- COVEL, JOEL, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co.; Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- COVEL, MATTHEW, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- COVEL, SAMUEL, app. Capt. 6th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg. May, 1782.
- COOMBS, (Capt.) commanded privateer schr. *Independence*, 1778. See p. 499.
- CRANE, DAVID, (s. or of Benjamin), b. 1742; Corp. in Capt. Dickinson's Co., Col. Elmore's Regt., 24 June, 1776; enl. Jan., 1777, from Sandisfield, Mass., for 3 years, in Capt. Allens' Co., Col. Wigglesworth's Reg.; private in Capt. Noah Allen's Co., same Reg., 28 May to 29 Jan., 1781; was then 39 yrs. old; was also in Capt. Ebenezer Smith's Co., 6th Reg. at Valley Forge, Mch.-May, 1778; at Providence, R. I. 1779; at West Point May, 1781; d. 1820 at Sandisfield. (*Crane Genral.*)
- CRANE, ABRAHAM.
- CRANE, ELIJAH, in Lex. Alarm. fm. Pittsfield to Boston, Apl. 1775; enl. 5 May, disch. Corp. 8 Oct., 1775, in Capt. Beardsly's Co. 5th Reg.; served in N. Y., and in Northern Dep't; again enl. 12 Aug., 1776, in Capt. Fuller's Co., 13 Conn. Mil., disch. 4 Sept., 1776; served 4 days at Bennington, Vt.—*Crane Genealogy*, p. 59.
- CRANE, JOHN, enl. 11 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, Capt. O. Hanchett's Co., 2d Reg., Col. Spencer—served in and about Boston, was prob. at Bunker Hill.—*Crane Genealogy*, p. 55.
- CRANE, JOSEPH, in Capt. Chester's 9th Co., Col. Spencer's Reg.; enl. 3 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775.—*Crane Genealogy*, p. 60.
- CRANE, JOSEPH, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co. 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, before Boston, 3d May, disch. 17 Dec. 1775.
- CRANE, CURTIS (N.) enl. Capt. Wooster's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Reg. 22 Mch. 1778, for the war. His wid. a pensioner from 1837 to death.—See *Crane Genealogy*, p. 56.
- CRANE, WILLIAM, pr. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. 9th Co. (Capt. Chester), 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, deserted 1 Dec., 1775. [A note to this name (page 52 of *Conn. Men in Revol. Service*—official, pub. by State of Conn.) explains this so-called "desertion."—"A number of men entered as deserters, about Dec. 1, 1775, afterwards explained in petitions, that they

had no intention of deserting, but believed that their time had expired that day, instead of on the 10th. The Assembly ordered that they be paid for their full time. Among those was William Crane of Weth, whose mother, (Lydia Crane) states in a petition that she had three sons in the service in 1775; the eldest died in camp; the second, prob. Joseph Crane, 9th Co., 2d Conn. Reg., returned, and the third, WILLIAM, who had fought at Bunker Hill, under Capt. Chester, left his Reg. about Nov. 30, 1775, supposing his time was up—was taken down with a fever on his way home, wandered in his delirium to Leicester, Mass. and died there.] *The Crane Genealogy* (p. 57) states that Mr. Crane died May 25, 1818, at Great Barrington, Mass. where he had settled after the war. It says, that "a careful examination of the Records at Leicester, Mass., failed to disclose the record of the death of this Mrs. Crane, and it is quite probable that the good mother was misinformed at that time, and that her son William recovered and re-enlisted, being in service at the time of her petition. The means of getting information from any considerable distance in those days were such that it wouldn't be strange if conflicting reports had reached Wethersfield about these supposed deserters, and that this widowed mother, who had furnished three soldiers to the army, all the sons she had, was easily led to believe that the youngest was dead."

CROLY, ———, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 18 May, disch. 17 Dec. 1775, before Boston.

CROSBY, THOMAS, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 17 Dec. 1775, before Boston.

CURTIS, DANIEL, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 10 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.

CURTIS, EBENEZER, of Capt., Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. the slip. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug. 1776; in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.

CURTIS, HARRY, enl. in 4th Troop, Col. Sheldon's Lt. Drag., 2 May, 1780, described as a tailor, 5 ft. 5 in. in height, dark complexion, sandy hair; d. 12 Nov. 1780.

CURTIS, EPHRAIM.

CURTIS, SAMUEL, Corp., in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slip. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.

CURTIS, JAMES, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan-March, 1776.

CURTIS, JOSEPH, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.

CURTIS, LEVI, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co. Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan-March, 1776.

CURTIS, WILLIAM, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co. 3rd Batt. at West Point, June 1778, in Capt. Wooster's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg. enl. Feb. 28, for the war; Corp., 1st June, 1780.

A. William C. was one of the 22 men capt. by the Brit. from the (Weth.) brigantine *Gen. Greene* (privateer), 1782, and d. in N. Y. prison.—*Step. C. R.*

DAVIS, SAMUEL, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Aug., 1776.

DAVIS, SAMUEL, in Lex. Alarm Co., enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2 Conn. Reg. Col. Spencer, 11, disch. 10 Dec., 1775, before Boston; in Capt. Hez. Welles' Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston Jan.-Mch., 1776.

DEANE, BARNABAS, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; 1st Lieut. in Col. Sheldon's Lt. Drag.

- DELLABOR. (*Dalliber, Dallaby*). JOHN, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 10 May, disch. 10 Dec. 1775, before Boston.
- DELLABOR, JONATHAN. (poss. the above John) pr. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Sheldon's Lt. Drag., 27 Dec. 1776; described as a cooper, 5 ft. 3 in. in height, dark complexion, blue eyes, dark hair.
- DELLABOR, THOMAS (?).
- DELLING, SAMUEL. (poss. Glaster), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, disch. 1 Dec. 1775, before Boston.
- DICKINSON, EBENEZER, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776; Lieut. in 8th Co. Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List, Oct., 1780; Lieut. 5th Co., same Reg., May, 1781.
- DICKINSON, JOHN, of Weth. appears in the Middlesex Co. of Sixth Mil. Reg.
- DICKINSON, LEVI. (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776.
- DICKINSON, NATHANIEL, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.
- DICKINSON, OZIAS, service record same as Nathaniel's above.
- DICKINSON, WAITSTILL, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., ("took Seymour's place") 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 20 Oct., disch. 30 Nov., 1775, before Boston, enl. 21 July, 1778, for the War, among "non-com. officers and musicians" in Capt. Walker's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg.; prom. Corp., Jan., 1779; prom. Sgt., 12 July, 1781; cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778; was in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- DEMING, AARON, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- DEMING, DANIEL, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- DEMING, DANIEL, 2d. in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- DEMING, DAVID, Lieut. in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., 22 April-10 May, 1777; Lieut. 2d Co., Cont. Line, Jan., 1780; one of the same name a 6 mos. recruit, 18 July-Dec. 4, 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- DEMING, ELIAS, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- DEMING, ELIZUR, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- DEMING, EPHRAIM, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- DEMING, JONATHAN, Commis. 3d Reg., Putnam's Brig., Peekskill and Fishkill, N. Y., Oct., 1777.
- DEMING, JOHN, sailor on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776, with Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co.—one of same name a 6 mos. recruit, 18 July-14 Dec., 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- DEMING, JOSIAH, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- DEMING, JOSIAH, 2d. service record same as above.
- DEMING, JOSHUA, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- DEMING, LEMUEL, JR., in Capt., Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- DEMING, LEAB, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- DEMING, RICHARD, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.

- DEMING, SIMON, Sgt. in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Peekskill, N. Y., 22 Apl.-10 May, 1777.
- DIMOCK, DAVID, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775, in Capt. Chester's Co.—*R. W. G.*
- DIX, BENJAMIN, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- DIX, CHARLES, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., Jan.-Mch., 1776, before Boston; Lieut. in 1st Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List, May, 1779; Lieut. in Col. Canfield's Mil. Reg., at West Point, Sept., 1781.
- DIX, ELISHA, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- DIX, JACOB, Ens. in 1st Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List, May, 1779.
- DIX, JESSE, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Peekskill, N. Y., Apl. 22-10 May, 1778.
- DIX, LEONARD, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- DIX, OZIAS, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Peekskill, N. Y., 22 Apl.-10 May, 1778.
- DOAL (Dole), JAMES, enl. 4th Troop, Col. Sheldon's Lt. (2d Cont.) Drag., 7 May, 1777, for the war; prom. Sgt., 1 May, 1778; prom. Sgt.-Maj., 1 Nov. (*Hietman* says 12 May), 1779; taken prisoner at Camden, N. J., Aug., 1780; exch. and prom. Cornet 2d Cont. Drag., 14 Jan., 1781; described as a farmer, height 5 ft. 9 in., sandy complex., grey eyes, sandy hair; served until end of war; undoubtedly the John *Donaal*, who enl. 6 June, 1777, for the war, and reported (prob. wrongly) as "deserted," Aug. 3, 1777.—*Conn. Mag.*
- DODGE, JOSEPH, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- DORMONT, STEPHEN, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- DOWL, JOHN, (poss. the John Doal, or Dole, above), cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- DUNHAM, CORNELIUS, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- DUNHAM, SOLOMON, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; app. Ens. in Sixth Mil. Reg., May, 1776.
- EVANS, BENJAMIN, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, disch. 10 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- FIELDS, PRESERVED, enl. 4th Troop, Col. Sheldon's Lt. (2d Cont.) Drag., 3 June, 1780; described as a tailor. 5 ft. 5 in. in height, dark eyes, sandy hair and complex., disch. for Wm. Morrison, 6 Apl., 1779.
- FLANNAGAN (*Flannakin*) BARNABAS, in Col. Canfield's Mil. Reg., at West Point, Sept., 1782.
- FLINT, ELIPHALET, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 or 9 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- FORBES, JOHN, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., at Peekskill, N. Y., 22 Apl.-10 May, 1777; cr. to Cont. Army, 1778.
- FLOWER, JOSEPH, a 6 mos. recruit, 18 Aug.-9 Dec., 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- FOSDICK, WILLIAM, fifer in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. as fifer in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 12 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- FOSTER, EDWARD, in Capt. Throop's Co., 1st Conn. Reg. Cont. Line, Col. Huntington; enl. 1 Jan., 1777, for the war, disch. 2 May, 1779.
- FOX, ASA, (poss. of Glast.—if so d. in service), Ens. 1st Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Feb., 1778; in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., June, 1778; transf. to Cont. Line.

- FOX, ROGER, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, killed in battle at Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775.
- FOX, SIMEON, (poss. of Glast.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 3 May, disch. 10 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- FRANCIS, ASA, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., Meh.-June, 1777.
- FRANCIS, JOHN, 1st. Sgt. in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg. State Troops, before Boston, 1775-6; Ens. Comm., May, 1777, in batt. raised for "State Defense;" Ens. in Col. Enos' Reg., 1777; app. Ens. 2d Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List, Jan., '78; comm. Lieut. in same Co., same yr.; 2d Lieut. in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., Col. Enos' Reg., in service on the Hunson, where they arrived in camp, 29 June, 1778; app. Lieut. in one of the "two reg. now to be raised," May, 1779, and served 1st Lieut. in Capt. Samuel Granger's Co., Col. Levi Welles' Reg., at Horse Neck and along the coast of L. I. Sound, during 1780; Capt. of the 1st Weth. Co., in Provisional Reg., 1781, and it is said of him by one who knew that he "was not absent from his command to exceed four months after he enlisted, during the war." Of himself he said "the proudest day of my life was when I marched at the head of my Co. of 101 men to the Weth. Church to take the oath."—(*Boardman Gen.*) He was Capt. in Jan., 1780, of 2d Co., Alarm List of the Sixth Mil. Reg.
- FRANCIS, JAMES, in Capt. Chester's Co., Lex. Alarm, and before Boston, May to Dec., 1775; in Capt. Chas. Webb's (Stamford) Co., Sept. to Dec., 1775, Capt. Leavenworth's Co., Nov., '76, to May, '80; First Troop, Jan., '77, 6 Nov., '80; from Weth. prom. in Capt. Stevens' Co. frn. June to Nov., 1776, Capt. Couch Co. from '76 to Jan. '77. Pensioner 1818. Corp. also 1832, Midd. Co. Several of name.
- FRANCIS, JUSTUS, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- FRANCIS, ROBERT, a 6 mos. recruit, 18 Aug., to Dec., 9, 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- FREEMAN, CAESAR, (S.), a slave, manumitted by Elias Williams, on condition of his serving in the army.
- FULLER, ABNER, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 12 May, 1775,—never joined.
- FULLER, FREDERICK, a 6 mos. recruit, 18 Aug.-Dec. 4, 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- GALE, NATHANIEL, ment. (in a letter from Moses Andrus to Samuel Boardman. of Weth.—in possession of Mr. W. F. J. Boardman, of Htfd.) as being near him at Fort Independence, 21 Sept., 1776.
- GIBBS, JONAS CLARK, (S.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 10 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- GIBBS, JACOB, (S.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 10 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- GIBSON, JOHN, in Col Canfield's Mil. Reg. at West Point, Sept., 1782,—poss. the same as the John *Gipson*, who was a 6 mos. recruit, 18 Aug.-14 Dec., 1779, in Col Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- GILLESPIE, WILLIAM, Sgt. 5th Troop, Col. Sheldon's Lt. (2d Conn.) Drag., described as a farmer, 5 ft. 8 in. height, light complex., grey eyes, dark hair.
- GOFF, GIDEON, SEN., (S.), cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1775; enl. Capt. Alden's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 28 Feb., 1777; prom. Corp., 1 July, 1781; enl. for the war.

- GOFF, JOSIAH, Sgt., in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., at Peekskill, 22 Apl.-10 May, 1777.
- GOODRICH, ALLYN, in Capt. Chester's Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.
- GOODRICH, ASAHEL, Sgt. in Henry Champion's Co., Col. Wyllis' Reg. (3d Conn.), 1777 (?).—*Conn. Mag.*
- GOODRICH, DAVID, (S.), in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- GOODRICH, ELISHA.
- GOODRICH, EPHRAIM, deserted before 1 Jan., 1780, and not included in settlement for depreciation of their pay.—*Conn. Mag.*
- GOODRICH, ELIZUR, (S.), enl. Capt. Chester's (5th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston; pr. in Capt. Hart's (3d) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg., Jan.-Mch., 1777; Sgt. enl. in Lieut. David Smith's Co., Col. Belden's Reg., 13 Apl., disch. 19 May., 1777. As a mariner, he was known as "Capt." Goodrich. He also removed the lead weights from his then newly erected house in Weth. and made them into bullets, which he sent to Boston after the Battle of Lexington. He was an intimate friend of Col. John Chester, Hon. Silas Deane and other Weth. patriots, and had a high social standing.
- GOODRICH, HOSEA, (S.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 11 May, disch. 21 Oct., 1775, before Boston; in Capt. Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Peekskill, Mch.-June, 1777.
- GOODRICH, ICHABOD, (S.), cr. to Cont. Army, 1778.
- GOODRICH, ISAAC, (S.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775; Sgt. in Capt. Hale's Co. (Glast.?), Jan. to Mch., 1776; in Capt. E. Wright's Co., Nov., 1776; Comm. 1st Lieut. 3d Co., Capt. E. Wright's 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778; Lieut. 3d Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List, May, 1780.
- GOODRICH, JACOB, fifer, Washington's Life Guard, 1779-1783. Guard; he d. at Rocky Hill, 24 Nov., 1833.
- GOODRICH, JARED, (S.), fifer 1st Cont. Reg.; transf. 1780, to Washington's Life

His services are thus fully stated in a petition for a pension, which was entirely in his own handwriting and which we have thus briefly condensed. [*H. R. S.*]

In Autumn of 1775, at ae. 14? enlisted as a musician under Lieut. Charles Butler of Weth. in a Glastonbury Co. in 3rd Conn. (Col. Samuel Wyllis' Reg. for one yr. and upon being discharged at expiration of term of enlistment, he again enl. in the winter beginning 1777, for the war, in Capt. John Barnard's Co. of Htfd., same Reg. serving as fife major until after Burgoyne's defeat. (1779) when he was transferred to Gen. Washington's Life Guards, and served until end of the war, part of the time under Maj. Wm. Gibbs and part under Capt. Wm. Colfax, and, on the 3rd day of June, 1783, at Newburgh Headquarters, he received an honorable discharge and two badges of Merit—and as he pathetically adds "without a cent of money to bear my expenses home to my poor parents, who were anticipating help from their veteran sons, 3 in number, all of whom engaged during the war, and I am the only survivor of this poor unfortunate family—a war-worn and sea-worn object—living on a little ppy. belonging to my wife, who is destitute of a right hand since infancy. * * My life was exposed in many instances during the war, viz. on Dorchester Hill; at Flatbush on Long Island; on the retreat out of New York; at Ridgefield near Danbury; at Springfield, N. J.; at old Fort Independence, near Kingsbridge, N. Y. and at the siege of Yorktown. * * By arbitrary power my transfer reduced my wages from \$10 first month to \$7 and a third. From a note

appended to this statement by Dr. R. W. Griswold of Ry-Hill, we learn that Mr. Goodrich's appeal for a pension was not granted—the loss of the rolls at the time of his transfer to Washington's Life Guards having technically left him on record as a deserter—a misfortune which he often bitterly lamented.

Lines (apparently original) appended by Jared Goodrich of Rocky Hill, to his claim for a pension, for services in the War of the Revolution.

Oh! Washington, thou long lost Soldiers' friend,
Tho' sleeps thy dust, thy spirit needs't attend,
To prove the veterans sufferings in that war,
Sustained by many a victim, many a scar;
To assert thy childrens' rights in this late hour,
Of struggling nature 'gainst malignant power.
Full well thou knew'st—who went the nightly round,
Sounding the tattoo 'long the tented ground;
Who punctual rose, just at each dawning day,
And at thy door prolong'd the reveille;
Who bore the wounded from the field of blood,
Besmeared all over with the purple flood;
Who helped the surgeon probe the deadly wound,
And wrapped secure the swathing bandage round.

GOODRICH, JESSE, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June 1778.

GOODRICH, JOHN, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co. Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y. Aug. 1776.

GOODRICH, A JOHN Goodrich is advertised (with Levi Latimer) in *Conn. Courant*, Jan. 31, 1777, as deserter from Col. S. B. Webb's Batt. about 22 years old, about 5 ft. 3 in. high, dark complexion.

GOODRICH, JOSIAH, (Ens.) in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y. Aug. 1776; in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co. 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.

GOODRICH, JOSEPH, Sgt. of Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776; prob. the same Sgt. Joseph who was of Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Apl.-22-10 May, 1777.

GOODRICH, MOSES, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug. 1778.

GOODRICH, NATHANIEL, Corp. in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776; app. ens. May., 1778, of 2nd Co., Sixth Mil. Reg. Alarm list.

GOODRICH, OLIVER, Capt. of privateer schr. *Humbird*, 1778.

GOODRICH, OZIAS, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg. Col. Spencer, 12 May, disch. 17 Dec. 1775, before Boston; enl. in 3d Reg., Conn. Line, Col. Samuel Wylly's; prom. corp., 21 Jan., 1777; prom. Sgt. 1 Aug., 1778; app. ens. 24 Oct., 1780 (comm. dated 1 July, 1779); transf. as ens. to Capt. Heath's Co., 1st Reg. Conn. Line (yrs. of 1781-1783) Col. Durkee; was afterwards in Swift's Reg. and served until end of war; an orig. mem. of the Society of the Cincinnati.

GOODRICH, PHILER, (Philo?) a 6 mo's. recruit, 23 July-14 Dec., 1779 in Col. Webb's (9th Conn.)—*Conn. Mag.*

GOODRICH, ROSWELL, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co. Col. Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; fifer in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt.

- West Point, June 1778; enl. 23 Aug. 1778 in Capt. Horton's Co. of Artificers, Col. Baldwin, for 3 years.
- GOODRICH, SIMEON, a 6 mo's. recruit, 18 Aug.-9 Dec., 1779, in Col. Webb's Reg. (9th Conn.).—*Conn. Mag.*
- GOODRICH, STEPHEN, (S.), 1st Lieut. Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. as Lieut. Capt. Chester's (9th Co.) 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 1 May; disch. 10 Dec., 1775, before Boston; 1st Lieut. 22d Cont. Inf., 1 Jan.-31 Dec., 1776; Capt.-Lieut. 3rd Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm list, May, 1780.
- GOODRICH, TIMOTHY, in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug. 1776.
- GOODRICH, WAIT, Capt. app. Inspector of Gunpowder (one of 4) at May term 1778, of Gen. Assembly.
- GOODRICH, WILLIAM, (S.), Capt. of *Minerva*.—See p.
- GRANT, AZARIAH, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Reg., Col. Spencer, 9 May, disch. 10 Dec. 1775, before Boston.
- GRIFFIN, SIMEON, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. in Capt. Bull's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 1 Meh., 1777, among "non-com. officers and musicians" for the war; prom. Qr.-Mas. Sgt., 16 May, 1778; prom to Qr.-Mas. Sgt. cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- GRISWOLD, CONSTANT, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 12 May; disch. 17 Dec., 1775.
- GRISWOLD, JACOB, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill, N. Y., Meh.-June, 1777; enl. 1 June, 1777 in Capt. Bull's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg. for the war; taken pris. 10 Dec., 1777; exch. 15 July, 1778; disch. 14 Feb., 1781.
- GRISWOLD, WILLIAM, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; of Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y. Aug. 1776; in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg. Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill, Meh.-June, 1777.
- GRISWOLD, JOSIAH, pr. in Capt. Elijah Wright's Co., at White Plains, N. Y., June, 1778.
- GRISWOLD, MOSES, cr. to Wethersfield in Cont. Army, 1778.
- GROGAN, JOHN, enl. 3 June, 1777 for war, deserted 22 Sept. 1778.
- GROVER, PHINEAS, (poss. Glast.), Sgt. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 3 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston; ens. in 1st (Gl.) Co., Capt. Swift's batt. at Fort Ticonderaga, 1776; comm. 2nd Lieut. 7th Reg. Conn. Line, Col. Herman Swift, 1 Jan., 1777; prom. 1st Lieut. 25 Jan., 1778; prom. Capt.-Lieut. 11 Oct., 1780; resigned 1781; was in assault on Stony Point, 15 July, 1779; was in 2nd Batt. detached from the 7th Reg. with the Light Co. R. & F. for service under Col. Return Jonathan Meig's Lt. inf.
- GROVER, WILLIAM, (S.) Chester's Co.?
- HALE, BENEZER, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig. at Peekskill, N. Y. Meh.-June, 1777.
- HALE, ELIZUR, JR., app. Capt. 6th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List, Oct., 1778.
- HALE, MATHEW, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co. 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- HALE, NATHANIEL, a 6 mo's. recruit, 18 Aug.-14 Dec., 1779 in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- HALE, THEODORE, in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug. 1776.
- HAND, JONATHAN, enl. Capt. Wylly's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 21 Feb. 1777, for war.
- HAND, JOSEPH, enl. Capt. Bull's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's add. Reg. 22 April, 1777, for the war; disch. 5 June, 1780—paid to 1780.

- HANMER, JAMES. on bd. slp. Anne, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- HANMER, JOHN. app. May. 1776. 1st Lieut., 2d Co., Sixth Mil. Reg. "for defense of this and adjoining colonies;" Capt. of a Mil. Co. on bd. slp. Anne, bd. for N. Y. Aug. 1776; Capt. 2nd Co. Sixth Mil. Reg. May, 1780
- HANMER, SAMUEL, in Capt., Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. Anne, bd. for N. Y., Aug. 1776.
- HANMER, THOMAS. Sgt. in Capt. Hanmer's Co., as above.
- HARRISON, THEODORE, a 6 mo's. recruit. 15 July—9 Dec., 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- HATCH, JAMES, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co. 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- HATCH, MOSES, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug. 1778.
- HENDERSON, ———. 4th Troop. Col. Sheldon's Lt. (2nd Conn.) Drag.; enl. 7 May, 1777, described as a farmer. 5 ft. 10 in. height, dark complexion, hair and eyes, disch. for Jno. Judd.
- HILL, ELIPHALET, a 6 mo's. recruit, 16 Aug.—14 Dec., 1779 in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- HILLS, ASA, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- HILLS, ASAHIEL, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 1 May, disch. 10 Dec. 1775, before Boston.
- HINCKLEY, THOMAS, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co. 2nd Conn. Reg. Col. Spencer, 9 May, disch. 17 Dec. 1775, before Boston.
- HOGAN, JAMES, in Col. Canfield's Mil. Reg., West Point, Sept. 1782.
- HOLLISTER, AARON, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co. 2nd Conn. Reg. Col. Spencer, 6 May, disch. 7 Dec. 1775, before Boston.
- HOLLISTER, ASAHIEL, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- HOLLISTER, ELIJAH, enl. Capt. Chester's 9th Co. 2nd Conn. Reg. Col. Spencer, 8 May, disch. 17 Dec. 1775, before Boston.
- HOLLISTER, ELIZUR, app. Lieut. Sixth Mil. Reg. Alarm List. Oct. 1780.
- HOLLISTER, EVETT, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co. 3rd Batt. West Point, June, 1778.
- HOLMES, LEMUEL, in Col. Canfield's Mil. Reg. West Point, Sept. 1782.
- HOLMES, DANIEL, a 6 mo's. recruit, 23 July—9 Dec., 1779, in Col. Webb's Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- HOLMES, SIMEON, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug. 1778.
- HOLMES, THOMAS, (S.) enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co. 2nd Conn. Reg. Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 10 (or 17) Dec. 1775, before Boston; prob. the same who enl. 1 Meh. 1777 for the war, in Capt. Whiting's Co. Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., and cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778; was a Sgt.
- HOSFORD, AARON, app. Capt. 4th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List, May, 1778.
- HOSKINS, THOMAS, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 9 May; *deserted* 1 Aug. 1775, before Boston.
- HUBBARD, AARON
- HUBBARD, ABEL, drummer in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Meh. 1776.
- HUBBARD, ELIZUR, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- HUBBARD, ZENAS, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co. Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Meh. 1776.
- HUNN, ENOS, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Meh. 1776.

- HURLBURT, ELI, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 17 Oct. 1775, before Boston.
- HURLBURT, JOHN, app. 1st Lieut. 2nd Co. Capt. Chester's Batt. Vols.
- HURLBUT, ROBERT, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co. Col. Belden's Co., Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill, N. Y. Meh.-June, 1777.
- HURLBURT, SILAS, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co. 2nd Conn. Reg. Col. Spencer, 11 May, disch. 16 Oct. 1775, before Boston; was in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg. Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill, N. Y. 22 April-10 May, 1777, and in 3rd Co. (Capt. E. Wright's) 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- HURLBUT, STEPHEN, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co. 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- HULBUT, TIMOTHY, in Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug. 1776.
- JACKSON, JOHN, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, died 28 Sept., 1775.
- JOHNSON, JOSEPH, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug. 1778.
- JOHNSON, , in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co. Col. Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776—deserted.
- KELLOGG, MARTIN, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; Lieut. 6th Reg., Mil. Co., 1777; Capt. Official Vols., Htfd.
- KELLOGG, PHINEAS, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- KELLOGG, STEPHEN, in Capt. Hez. Welles' Co., Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776; enl. Capt. Wooster's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 22 April, 1777, for the war; cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778; disch. at close of war 5 Jan., 1783.
- KELSEY, MOSES, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- KELSEY, WILLIAM, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- KELSEY, JOHN, Sgt. in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776.
- KELSEY, IRA, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776.
- KILBY, CHRISTOPHER ALLEN, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 9 May; disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776, as corp.
- KILBOURN, LEVI, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 21 Nov. 1775, before Boston.
- KILBOURN, SETH, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May; disch. 21 Nov., 1775, before Boston; in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig. at Peekskill, Meh.-June, 1777.
- KILBOURN, TIMOTHY, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776.
- KING, DAVID, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775, and enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co. 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 11 May; disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston. See Catlin's letter, p. .
- KIRKHAM, (*Kircum*, *Kircom*) JOHN, enl. Capt. Walker's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 21 July, 1778, for 3 yrs.; cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778; fife-major, 14 Nov., 1781.
- KIRKHAM, JOHN, drummer in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- KIRKHAM, SAMUEL, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug. 1778.

- KIRKHAM, WILLIAM, enl. 4th Troop, Col. Sheldon's Lt. (2d Conn.) Drag. 2 April, 1777; described as a weaver, 5 ft. 8 in height, dark complexion and hair, blue eyes.
- KNOWLES, JAMES, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; as ens. from Capt. Chester's (9th) Co. 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer (in which he enl. 10 May, and was disch. 10 Sept., 1775); he served under Capt. Hanchett in the Quebec Exped., Dec., 1775, and was taken pris. at Q.; later in the war was reported to be in the privateer service.
- LAGO, WILLETT, of Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. the *Slp. Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug. 1776.
- LAMPHEER, ———, enl. in Capt. Sheldon's Lt. (2nd Conn.) Drag. 15 Feb. 1777; described as a saddler, 5 ft. 8 in. height, fair complexion, light hair, blue eyes.
- LATIMORE LEVI, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch. 1776; enl. Sheldon's Lt. (2d Conn.) Drag.; recruit; prob. the same Levi cr. to Cont. Army, Aug. 1778.
- A Levi Lattimer is adv. in *Conn. Courant*, 31 Jan., 1777, in company with one John Goodrich, as a deserter, described as about 5 ft. 5 in. high, sandy complexion and has impediment in speech.
- LEACH, WILLIAM, served in Col. S. B. Webb's add. Reg. wd. at battle of Rhode Island, Aug. 1778.
- LENNOX, JOHN R., in Col. Canfield's Mil. Reg. at West Point, Sept. 1782.
- LINDSEY, DAVID, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- LOCKWOOD, JAMES, (Mil. Sec'y and Brig.-Major) son of Rev. James of Weth.; mcht. at New Haven; on the Lex. Alarm; seems to have gone, in some capacity to the camp at Boston; later was app. Mil. Sec'y. to Gen. Wooster, whom he accompanied to Canada, with Gen. Montgomery, who app. him Brig.-Major in the Northern Army; was present at the capture of St. Johns, also of Montreal and Quebec, April-May, 1776; was app. Sept. 24, 1777, recruiting officer of 1st Conn. Mil. Brig.; after the war engaged in trade in Philadelphia, and d. in Wilmington, N. C., 24 Aug., 1795. See *Yale in the Revolution*, p. 19.
- LOCKWOOD, (Rev.) WILLIAM, was Brig. Chaplain in the re-formation of the Conn. Line, 1781-83; continued as chaplain in Gen. Nixon's Brig. in the Mass. Line, Oct. 12, 1780, to the end of the war, June, 1783; was an orig. mem. of the Society of the Cincinnati, from Mass.; d. 23 June, 1828.
- LOOMIS, DICK, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- LOVELAND, ASA, (poss. Glast.) enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, died 24 Oct., 1775, at Boston.—p. 104, *Hist. Glast.*
- LOVELAND, DANIEL.
- LOVELAND, LEVI, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777; in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co. 3rd Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- LUSK, LEVI, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- LUSK, JAMES, app. Ens. 13th Co., 15 Reg., Oct., 1775; app. Capt. of same Co., May, 1779; Capt. of Mil. Co., New Haven Alarm, Col. Stanley's Reg., 1779; served with his Co. (as from Far.) 12 day, in Col. Hutchins' N. Y. Reg., at West Point, 1780.—*Col. Rec. Conn.* XV; *Conn. State Rec.* II, 298; *Conn. Rev. Rec.*
- MACKEY, HEZEKIAH, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 12 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.

- MARKS, ABISHAI, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 11 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775; may be the same who, as ABIAH, was in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- MARSH, DANIEL, was one of 22 men capt. by the British from the brig. *Gen. Greene*, privateer, 1782, and d. in N. Y. prisoner.—*Step. Ch. Rec.*
- MAY, HEZEKIAH, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- MAY, JOHN, (*jifer*), in Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- MAY, WILLIAM, Sgt. in same Co. as John above.
- MCCLEAN, (poss. Gl.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, disch. 7 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- MCDOWELL, ALVIN, Corp., enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 3 May, disch. 10 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- MENALLY, HENRY, in Col. Canfield's Mil. Reg., at West Point, 1782.
- MELDRUM, WILLIAM, was one of 22 capt. by the British from the privateer brigantine *Gen. Greene* (from Weth.) 1782, and d. in N. Y. prison.
- MILLER, CALEB, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- MILLER, JOHN, (S.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 5 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- MILLER, JONATHAN, enl. Capt. Wooster's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 1 June, 1777, for the war, disch. 3 Dec., 1782.
- MILLER, JOSEPH, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston [also on record, a Joseph Millar, who enl. same Co. and Reg., on 6 May, but disch. on same day as the above—prob. same person].
- MILLS, JEDIDIAH, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- MINER, JNO., enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, disch. 9 Nov., 1775, before Boston.
- MITCHELL, DAVID, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.
- MOHAWK, PETER, (Indian), cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- MONTAGUE, ABRAM, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- MONTAGUE, RICHARD, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., Apl., 22-May 10, 1777.
- MONTAGUE, SETH, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. in Capt. Wooster's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 30 May, 1777, for the war; prom. Capt., 1 June, 1778; disch. 7 Mch., 1780.
- MORGAN, THOMAS, enl. Capt. Wylls' Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 31 May, 1777, for the war; deserted 3 Mch., 1779; rejoined 25 Feb., 1780; deserted 21 Jan., 1781.
- MORRISON, WILLIAM, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- MOSELY, JOSEPH, (poss. Gl.), Capt. 1st Co., 2d Batt., Col. Gay. Wadsworth's Reg., 1776.
- MORTON, BENJAMIN, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- MURPHY, JAMES, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 3 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston; in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777; poss. the same J. M., who enl. 6th Troop, Col. Sheldon's Lt. Drag., 11

- Apl., 1777, described as a farmer, 5 ft. 5 in. in height, dark complex., light eyes; or poss. the J. M., who was in service as a matross in Col. Crane's Artillery, from 1777-78; in service in 1781.
- MYGATT, JOHN, enl. Capt. Bull's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., for the war, 1777; Corp., 1 June, 1781; ment., Sept., 1776, by Moses Andrus, at Ft. Independence, as being near him in that place.—(W. F. J. Boardman.)
- MYGATT, ZEBULON, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Peekskill, N. Y., Meh.-June, 1777; enl. Capt. Bull's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 2 July, 1777, for the war; Corp., 1 June, 1781.
- NEAL, THOMAS, enl. 2d Troop, Col. Sheldon's Lt. Drag., 25 Meh., 1777.
- NEWSON, ISAAC, Capt., of the privateer *Lark*.
- NICHOLS, BENJAMIN, Capt. 15th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., May, 1778.
- NICHOLSON, FRANCIS, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- NICHOLSON, NATHAN, service record same as Francis.
- NORTH, DAVID, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Meh.-June, 1777.
- NORTH, ISAAC, 2d Lieut. Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., 22 Apl.-10 May, 1777.
- NORTH, SELAH, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; Sgt. in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- NOTT, CHARLES, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- NOTT, HEZEKIAH, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- PADDY, SETH, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 11 May, disch. 10 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- PATERSON, JOHN, (Major-General), a native of Newington parish, b. 1744; grad. of Y. C., 1762; became a lawyer; removed to Lenox, Mass., in 1774; threw himself ardently into the patriot cause; he was a member of the Berkshire Convention which sat at Stockbridge that year and he sat as representative from Lenox in the First and Second Provincial Congresses. He organized the Stockbridge Indians for military service and raised a regiment, of which he became Colonel. It marched the third day after the battle of Lexington with almost incredible promptness, and from that time until 1783, with the exception of brief furloughs, Paterson remained in active service. He held Fort No. 3, Prospect Hill, Charleston Heights, during the battle of Bunker Hill; he fought at Princeton; shared in the unjust criticism for the abandonment of Ticonderoga, which was forgotten in the triumph of Burgoyne's surrender, to which he contributed by his great services at Bemis Heights. He was made Brig.-Gen in 1777, endured the hardships of Valley Forge in 1777-78, and took an important part in the battle of Monmouth, the last serious contest fought in the North. Gen. Patterson served on the Hudson and at West Point. At the close of the war he was one of the small group of major generals, the youngest officer of that rank excepting LaFayette, and he held the highest place of any son of Berkshire. He resumed his residence in Lenox, and again took up his sword to crush "Shay's Rebellion." In 1790, he shared in the "Boston Purchase" in Broome and Tioga counties, N. Y., and in 1791, removed his residence to Tioga. In 1792-93, he represented it in the State Legislature; he was made Chief Justice in 1798, and sat in Congress in 1803 and 1805. His sword was readily turned into the ploughshare, and his bravery in war became wise counsel in peace. His name deserves to be remembered among the founders of the Republic. His gt-gd-

- son, Dr. Thomas Eggleston, published, in 1899, a valuable biography of him, entitled *John Paterson, Major-General*, from the press of G. P. Putnam's Sons. A monument to General Paterson, called the Eggleston-Paterson Memorial Monument, occupies a fine site at Lenox, Mass.
- PALMER, ISAAC, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- PECK, ARIEL, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- PHELPS, ELIHU, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 10 May, disch. 10 Dec., 1775.
- PIERCE, SAMUEL, in Capt. Hamner's Mil. Co., on bd. *Slp. Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- PITKIN, JOHN, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- PITKIN, NATHANIEL, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- POMEROY, OLIVER, (S.), Lieut. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; Lieut. 6th Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- PORTER, AARON.
- PORTER, ABIAH, fifer in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; also in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., at Peekskill, N. Y., Apl. 22-10 May, 1777.
- POWELL, BENONI, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 11 May, died 4 Nov., 1775, before Boston.
- PRICE, JOHN, capt. with 21 others by the Br. from the brigantine *Gen. Greene*, of Weth., 1782; d. after release from prison in N. Y., on way home, at Saybrook, Ct.—*Step. Ch. Rec.*
- RAINEY, WILLIAM, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, Mch.-June, 1777.
- RASH, JACOB, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's Co. (9th), 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- RASH, JEREMIAH, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.
- RAYMOND, OLIVER, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 5 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- REYNOLDS, JOHN, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., at Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.
- RHODES, ALEXANDER, in Capt. Hamner's Co., on bd. *slp. Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- RHODES, JOSEPH, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- RHODES, WILLIAM, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.
- RICHARDS, ELI and SIMEON, both in Capt. Hamner's Mil. Co., on bd. the *slp. Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- RILEY, ACKLEY, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- RILEY, ASHBEL, (S.), cr. to Cont. Army, 1776; commander of privateer *Ranger*, 1776, and of privateer *Snake*, 1778.
- RILEY, JACOB, app. Lieut. 4th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List, May, 1781.
- RILEY, JOHN, 2d Lieut. Burrall's State Reg., 19 Jan., 1776; 1st Lieut. to Jan., 1776; 2d Lieut., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 1 Jan., 1777; prom. 1st Lieut., 1 Feb., 1777; prom. Capt., 10 July, 1779; pris. on L. I., Exp., 10 Dec., 1777; exch. 3 Dec., 1780; transf. to 3d Conn. Reg., formation of 1781-83, 1 Jan., 1781; retired by consolidation, 1 Jan., 1783.

- RILEY, JUSTUS, of *Slp. Hero*, 1778.
- RILEY, REUBEN.
- RILEY, SIMON, ment. as Conductor of teams, in a letter from John Webb, dated at Kent, Nov., 1777; also says "price of Rum rising every day."
- RIPNER, ROGER, (S.) Capt. in Co., Chester's (Reg.?), 1776.—*R. W. G.*
- RIPNER, WILLIAM, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- ROBBINS, FREDERICK, (S.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 12 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston: was in battle of Bunker Hill; later part owner of a privateer in which sailing, he was capt. by British and endured much suffering in prison-ship until exch.
- ROBBINS, JOHN, (S.).—*R. W. G.*
- ROBBINS, JOSIAH, (prob. S.), app. May, 1776, 2d Lieut., 2d Co., 3d Reg. Vols.; enl. May, 30, 1777, Capt. Hart's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., for the war; transf. to Sapper's and Miner's, 1 Mch., 1781, prob. present at Siege of Yorktown, Sept. and Oct., 1781; in 1783, appears as applicant for pension, from Boston.
- ROBBINS, LEVI, app. Qr.-Mr., 1st Troop, 1st Reg., Light Drag.
- ROBBINS, OLIVER, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; six days in Capt. Chester's Co.
- ROBBINS, RICHARD, 6 mos. recruit, 23 July-12 Dec., 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- ROBBINS, SAMUEL, 6 mos. recruit, 18 Aug.-20 Dec., 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.
- ROBBINS, WILLIAM, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; commanded *Slp. Betsy*, 1776—See p.
- ROCKWELL, SAMUEL, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- ROSE, SAMUEL, enl. 1 Sept., 1777, in 2d Troop, Col. Sheldon's Light Drag., for the war; described as a seaman, 5 ft. 8½ in. in height, light complex., eyes and hair; disch. May, 1778.
- ROWLAND (Rowlandson ?), JOSEPH, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 10 May, disch. 24 Oct., 1775, before Boston.
- ROWLAND, WILLIAM, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 11 May, *died in prison*, at Boston, 1775.
- ROWLANDSON, JOSEPH, enl. Capt. Bull's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 8 June, 1777, for war; *deserted* 18 Feb., 1779; rejoined July, 1779. May be the same as Joseph Rowland, above.
- ROWLANDSON (?), WILSON, in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. *Slp. Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- RUSSELL, ASHER, (S.), enl. Capt. Bull's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 25 June, 1777, for the war; cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778; *deserted*, 18 Feb., 1779.
- RUSSELL, JOHN, drummer, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 6 May, disch. 1 Sept., 1775, before Boston.
- RUSSELL, NATHANIEL, (S.), (son of Rev. Daniel), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- RUSSELL, THOMAS, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co.
- SABINS, STEPHEN, enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, *died* 30 June, 1775.
- SANBORN, NATHANIEL, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- SANFORD, EBEN, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- SANFORD, JESSE, in Capt. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.

- SAVAGE, LUTHER, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Peekskill, N. Y., Meh.-June, 1777.
- SCOTT, MOSES, (poss. Glast.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, disch. 1 Dec., 1775.
- SCOVELL, JAMES, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Meh., 1776.
- SCRIPTURE, JOHN, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- SEYMOUR, ASHBEL, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; Sgt. enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th) 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 19 May, disch. 17 Oct., 1775, before Boston; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Meh., 1776.
- SHEPARD, NATHANIEL, in Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- SHIPMAN, REUBEN, (S.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 6 May, disch. 10 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- SIZER, DANIEL, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- SIZER, JABEZ, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- SMITH, GERSHOM, (S.), in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 10 May, *killed* 17 June, 1775, at Bunker Hill.
- SMITH, ISAAC, (poss. Gl.), app. Ens. Oct., 1779, to 6th Co., Sixth Mil., Reg., Alarm List.
- SMITH, JOHN, (poss. Gl.), in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Peekskill, N. Y., Meh.-June, 1777.
- SMITH, SAMUEL, (poss. Glast.), app. Lieut., May, 1779, in "one of the regiments to be raised."
- SPAULDING, JOSEPH, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg., State Troops, before Boston, Jan.-May, 1776.
- STANDISH, JAMES, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. Slp. *Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- STANLEY, GEORGE, Lieut. in Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug., 1776; Lieut., May, 1780, in 2d Co., Sixth Mil. Reg.
- STANLEY, JAMES, (S.).
- STANLEY, THOMAS, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778; enl. 21 July, 1778, in Capt. Walker's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., for the war; Corp., 1 June, 1781.
- STEEL, JOSEPH, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Meh., 1776; in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- STEVENS, ———, Sgt., taken prisoner, with Col. Welles, near Horseneck, Dec., 10, 1780.
- STEVENS, EPAPHRAS, (poss. Gl.), enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 10 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- STEVENS, THOMAS, (poss. Gl.), 1st Lieut. in Col. Enos' State Reg., June, 1777.
- STILLMAN, ALLYN, in Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776; in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Peekskill, N. Y., Meh.-June, 1777.
- STILLMAN, ALLYN, (Capt.), commanded State Naval transport.—See Chapter XII.
- STILLMAN, DAVID, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778; a 6 mos. recruit, 1 Oct.-9 Dec., 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- STILLMAN, JOSEPH, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.

- STILLMAN, JOSEPH (Dr.), poss. same as above, in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. Slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- STILLMAN, NATHANIEL in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776. There was a Capt. Nath'l Stillman, of Weth., who commanded one of the two companies of Washington's Life (or body) Guard.
- STILLMAN, SAMUEL. Capt. of brig *Jason*, 1780. Pensioner, Htfd. Co., 1832.
- STOCKING, HEZEKIAH. enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spenceer, 4 May, di-ch. 10 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- STODDARD, DAVID, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. in Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston.
- STODDARD, EBENEZER, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- STODDARD, ELI, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- STODDARD, ENOCH, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, 12 May, disch. 18 Oct., 1775.
- STODDARD, EPAPHRAS, in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- STODDARD, JONATHAN, Ens. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; Ens. of Capt. Norton's (3d) Co., Col. Mott's Batt. (one of two batt. raised to reinforce the Cont. Troops in the Northern Dep't at Ticonderoga and vicinity, and which served under Gen. Gates and were retired Nov., 1776). This 3d Co. was enlisted from Midd., Farmington and Weth.; prob. the same Jonathan, who, Oct., 1780, was Capt. of 5th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List.
- STODDARD, SOLOMON, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., Jan.-Mch., 1776, before Boston.
- SULLIVAN, LAWRENCE, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn., Reg., Col. Spencer 13 May, disch. 10 Dec., 1775; prisoner in same year prob. in the Quebec Exp.
- TALMADGE, BENJAMIN, (Maj.) This brilliant and well known officer, though a native of Long Island, seems to have been studying at Weth. when the war broke out (probably preparing for Y. C. under the tuition of Rev. Dr. Marsh) and was among the earliest to enl. under Capt. Chester (and was credited on the enl. rolls. to Weth.) with whom he was in the Boston Campaign of 1775; tho' he did not fully decide to enter the service until the following year when he rec'd an appt. as 2nd Lieut. in 3rd Co. of Chester's Batt., Wadsworth's Brig., was app. Adj't. thereof 20 June, 1776; and by his promptness, and merit became Senior Capt. in the same Regt., comm. dated 14 Dec., '76; promoted Maj., 7 Apl., 1776. and Brig.-Maj., 11 Oct., same year. Dec. 14 was app. Maj. in Col. Sheldon's (2nd Cont., Light Dragoons; returned to Weth. and enl. a number of volunteers, whom he equipped handsomely at his own expense and in Spring of '77 joined Washington in N. J.; conducted the secret service for the Commander-in-Chief; was Capt. at Fort George, L. I., 21 Nov., 1780, for gallantry in which action he rec'd the following vote of thanks from the Cont. Congress.

By the act of 6 Dec. 1780, it was "Resolved while Congress are sensible of the patriotism, courage and perseverance of the officers and privates of their Reg. forces, as well as of the militia throughout the U. S., and of the military conduct of the principal Commanders in both, it gives them pleasure to be so frequently called upon to confer marks of distinction and applause for enterprise, which do in this light they view the enterprise against Fort St. George on L. I. planned and honor to the profession of arms, and claim a high rank of military achievements;

conducted with wisdom and great gallantry, by Maj. Tallmadge, of the Light Dragoons and executed with intrepidity and complete success by the officers and soldiers of the detachment. Ordered therefore, that Maj. Tallmadge's rep't. to the Com.-in-Chief be published with the preceding minutes, as a tribute to distinguished merit, and in testimony of the sense Congress entertains of this brilliant service." Served at Gen. Washington's Headquarters, Mch., 1781 to Nov., 1783; Brevet-Lieut. Col., 30 Sept. 1783 (died 17 Mch. 1835.)

TALCOTT, ELEN, in Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.

TALCOTT, ELIZUR, (poss. Gl.) in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.

TALCOTT, MOSES, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; in Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug. 1776.

TAYLOR, ASABEL, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.

TAYLOR, ASHBEL, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 9 May, disch. 17 Dec. 1775, before Boston.

TAYLOR, JOSEPH, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.

TAYLOR, REUBEN, service record same as Joseph's.

THRASHER, SAMUEL, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg. Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.

TIMON, (negro) in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.

TINKER, JEHIEL, navigator Capt., 1777.

TOSSET, CHARLES, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig., Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.

TREAT, CHARLES, Sgt., 6 days service in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2d Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 12 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston; was at battle of Bunker Hill; cr. to Cont. Army, 1778; prob. the same C. T. who enl. 23 Aug. in Capt. Wilcox's Co., Col. Baldwin's Reg. of Artificiers, for the war; prom. Sgt. 1 Aug., 1778; enl. June 1776, under Capt. Chester Welles in Col. John Chester's Reg. for 7 mo.; was in battles of Long Island, Kingsbridge, Valentine Hill, and White Plains and in the retreat through N. J. to the Del. River—to Dec. 1776, when he was disch.; enl. a 3d time Aug. 23, 1777, with Capt. James Wilcox, Col. Jeduthan Baldwin; prom. Sgt. 1 Aug., 1778; trans. to Co. of Capt. Thomas' Artillery Artificiers under Gen. Knox, till prom. June 1779 to conductor of Mil. stores with rank of Capt.; disch. 9 Nov., 1782.

TREAT, JOSEPH CANNING, (s. John) enl. for war, 6 Mch., 1777 under Capt. Bulkely in 3d Conn. Reg., Col. S. B. Webb, disch. June 8, 1783, signed by Gen. Washington. Was in bat. of R. I., Aug. '79; at burning of Springfield, N. J., 23 June, 1780, and later with main army on the Hudson; pensioner—appears on pen. list as John Treat—the name Canning having been dropped. Was one of the Mil. Co. on bd. the slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug. 1776.

TRYON, AARON, in Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.

TRYON, GEORGE, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.

TRYON, JOSEPH, cr. to Cont. Army, 1778.

TRYON, JOSIAH, a 6 mos. recruit, 18 Aug.-4 Dec. 1779, in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*

- TRYON, MOSES, U. S. N., Capt. of armed brig *Jason*, 1781.—*Tryon Geol.* Vol. II.
- TRYON, WILLIAM, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer. 9 May; Corp. until 20 Oct.; Sgt. until 10 Dec., 1775, when the Co. was mustered out, before Boston.
- TURNER, JOHN, enl. Capt. Alden's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 23 Apl. 1777, for the war; *deserted* 2 Aug., 1779.
- WAPLES, ELI, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- WARD, DANIEL, (poss. Gl.) enl. Capt. Whiting's Co., 4 Feb., 1777, for the war; cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778; corp. 1 May, 1781, in Col. Webb's Add. Reg.
- WARE, (WEARE) ELIAS, enl. Capt. Col. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 8 May, disch. 17 Dec. 1775; cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- WARE, WILLIAM, service record same as Elias—disch. 17 Dec., 1775; cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- WARNER, ROBERT, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- WARNER, DANIEL, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- WARNER, WILLIAM, (S.), Sgt. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; app. Feb., 1778. Lieut. in 1st Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List; app. Aug., 1777, Ens. in 6th Co., same Reg.
- WATERS, JOSEPH, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778; enl. 1st Troop. Col. Sheldon's Lt.-Drag. 16 Mch., 1780; described as shoemaker, 5 ft. 3 in. in height, fair complex., light hair and eyes.
- WEAVER, SAMUEL, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- WEBB, SAMUEL, BLATCHLEY, (Brig.-Gen.)
- WEBB, JOHN (Capt.) app. Lieut. Sheldon's 2d Reg. Lt. Drag. 10 Jan., 1777; app. Capt. 1 Jan., 1778; app. Aide-de-Camp to Maj.-Gen. Robert Howe, in re-org. of Conn. Line, 1777-1781; was on the gen. staff in formation of Conn. Line, 1781-83, and served to end of war; orig. memb. Society of the Cincinnati.
- WEBB, SAMUEL BLATCHLEY, (Brig.-Gen.), while acting as private secretary to Silas Deane, the news of the Battle of Lexington, reached Wethersfield, and the young man was quickly on the scene of action; was commissioned 1st Lieut. in Col. Chester's Reg., 1 May, 1775; was wounded at the battle of Bunker Hill, and commended in Gen. Orders for gallantry; wrote an account of the battle to Silas Deane (which is now in the Library of the Conn. Hist. Soc.); was made aide-de-camp to Gen. Putnam, 22 July, 1775, accompanied that general to New York City, where he was app. 21 June, 1776, in Gen. Orders, aide-de-camp to Gen. Washington, to whom also he acted as private secretary, with rank of Lt.-Col., which position he held until the close of that year, and was the writer of the order promulgating to the army, the Declaration of Independence, 4 July, 1776. A few days later according to the account given in his private Journal,¹ he joined Col. Reed in refusing to receive from the commander of the British Fleet, in N. Y. Harbor, a letter sent under a flag of truce, and discourteously addressed to George Washington, Esq. Webb's *Journal* says: "New York, July 14, 1776. A flag of truce from the Fleet appeared, on which Col. Reed and myself went down to meet it. About half way between Governor's and Staten Island, Lieut. Brown of the *Eagle*, offered a Letter from Lord

¹This Journal, covering the period betw. 21 June, and 1 Aug., 1776, is in the possession of the Webb family, to whom it was returned by Hon. Wm. B. Reed, who found it among his father's papers.

Howe, directed—GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq.; which, on account of its direction, we refused to receive, and parted with the usual compliments.

New York, 17 July, 1776.

A flag from the enemy, with an answer from General Howe about the [letter] sent yesterday, directed George Washington, Esq., &c.—which was refused.

New York, 19 July, 1776.

A flag appeared this morning, when Col. Reed and myself went down an Aid-de-Camp of Gen.^l Howe met us, and said, as there appeared an unsurmountable obstacle between the two Generals, by way of compounding, Gen.^l Howe desired his Adjutant General might be admitted to an interview with his Excellency, General Washington; on which, Col. Reed, in the name of General Washington, consented, and pledged his honor for his being safely returned. The Aide-de-Camp said the Adjutant General would meet us tomorrow forenoon.

20th July.

At 12 o'clock we met the Flag—took Lt. Colonel Paterson of the Regiment into our Barge and escorted him safe to town to Col. Knox's Quarters where His Excellency, General Washington, attended by his suit and Life Guard, received and had an interview of about an hour with him. We then escorted him back in safety to his own Barge. In going and coming we passed in front of the Guard Battery, but did not blindfold him—social and chatty all the way."

Webb was taken prisoner, with his command, on an expedition to L. I., 10 Dec., 1780; was exchanged and devoted his time, private funds and efforts to the raising and organizing of a regiment (one of the sixteen so-called "Additional regiments," authorized by Congress) which became the 3d Conn. Reg. of the Line, in the formation of 1781-3, and of which he was app. Col. During 1782, he was on detail duty with Light Infantry; was continued in the 3d Conn. Reg., in the formation of Jan.-June, 1783; was retired with the Army at the close of hostilities, June, 1783; brevetted as Brig.-Gen. under Gen. Act of Congress, 30 Sept., 1783, and served until 13 Nov., 1783; was one of original members of Society of Cincinnati.

WEBSTER, AMOS ANDREW, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.

WEBSTER, LEON, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.

WEBSTER, DAVID, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill, N. Y., Meh.-June, 1777.

WELLES, ASA, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg. before Boston, Jan.-Meh., 1776; in Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug., 1776.

WELLES, CHESTER, (Capt.) later Major, 2d Lieut. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; app. 26 May, 1776; Capt. 2d Co., Sixth Mil. Reg.; app. June, 1776, Capt. of 3d Co., Chester's Batt. of Vols.; app. Ens. in Col. Noadiah Hooker's Batt. at Peekskill, N. Y., Meh. 1777; Capt. of 4th Co. in Col. Belden's Co., Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill, N. Y., Apl. 22—10 May, 1777; Maj. Sixth Mil. Reg. (vice John Belden, prom.) Jan., 1780.

WELLES, ELIAH, in Capt. Hammer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug., 1776; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Meh., 1776.

WELLES, ELISHA, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.

WELLES, ELISHA, 2d.

- WELLES, GIDEON, in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- WELLES, HEZEKIAH, Capt. of 4th Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg. State Troops, before Boston Jan.-Mch., 1776; app. Capt. of a Co. for service at Peekskill, N. Y., in Col. Noadiah Hooker's Batt.; Capt. 4th Co., 19th Mil. Reg., Alarm List, 1779.
- WELLES, JAMES, Sgt. in Col. Sheldon's Lt. (2nd Conn.) Drag., 7 May, 1777; app. Corp. 1 Jan., 1778; Lieut. 2d June, 1779, and served to end of war.
- WELLES, JOSHUA, in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Col. Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; (poss. the same who was in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig. at Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777) cr. to Cont. Army, Aug. 1778; in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3d Batt. at Peekskill, N. Y., June, 1778.
- WELLES, JOSIAH, same service record as Joshua above (there was a Josiah Welles—poss. the same, who was in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 12 May, disch. 10 Dec., 1775; in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. Slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776).
- WELLES, JOSEPH, Corp. of Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- WELLES, ROBERT, app. Capt., May, 1778, in 5th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg.
- WELLES, ROBERT, JR., app. Lieut. May, 1778, in 5th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg.
- WELLES, ROGER, 2nd Lieut., 1 Jan., 1777, in Capt. Bull's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., and during the summer and fall of that year served under Gen. Putnam on the Hudson; was prom. 16 May, 1778, 1st Lieut., serving mostly in the Reg. commanded by his classmate, Col. Ebenezer Huntington, was doubtless in the battle of Long Island, was at one time in Capt. Walker's and again in Capt. Wooster's Co.; during the severe winter of 1779-80, within camp at Morristown, N. J., his Reg. being in Stark's Brig. which, in June following, took part in the action near Springfield, N. J. under Gen. Greene. When Lafayette's Light Inf. Corps was org. he was app. April 8, 1780 to the captaincy of one of the five companies, which formed a part of Capt. Gimat's battalion, accompanying Gen. Lafayette to Virginia. For his gallant conduct at Yorktown, S. C., and subsequent military services, see pp. 482-6, Vol. I; was in the action at Green Spring near Jamestown, Va., July 6, 1781; was retained in Swift's Conn. Reg., June, 1783 and served to end of the war, Nov., 1783.
- WELLES, SETH, in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. Slp. *Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- WELLES, SIMON, enl. 1st Troop, Sheldon's Lt. (2nd Conn.) Drag. 27 Dec., 1776; described as a joiner, 5 ft. 6 in. in height, fair complex., light eyes and hair; deserted, and returned 11 Sept., 1780.
- WELLES, THOMAS, Sgt. in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- WELLES, WILLIAM, ("Billee" on the roster) in Capt. Hanmor's Mil. Co., on bd. Slp. *Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- WENTWORTH, ZION, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 15 May, disch. Dec. 7, 1775; was in the unfortunate Quebec Expd. from which he returned safely; prob. the same L. W. who was in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776—from which he was detailed to the above expd., and who was also in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3d Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.

- WESTON, BENJAMIN, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. *Slp. Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776; Sgt. in Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 10 Mch., 1777; Ens. 16 May, 1778; resigned 13 July, 1779.
- WESTER. (pos. Weston) ———, in Col. Canfield's Mil. Reg. at West Point, Sept. 1782.
- WESTEN, BENJAMIN, (Ens.) disch. and deserted before Jan. 1, 1780 and not included in settlement for *depreciation of pay*.—*Conn. Mag.*
- WETHERBY, (WETHERLY) David, a 6 mos. recruit, 18 July-4 Dec., 1779; in Col. Webb's (9th) Reg.—*Conn. Mag.*
- WETHERELL, ELISHA, in Capt. E. Wright's (3d) Co., 3d Batt., at West Point, June, 1778.
- WETHERHEAD, EDWARD, cr. to Cont. Army, 1778.
- WETMORE, JOHN.
- WHEELER, JOSEPH, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- WHITE, JAMES, one of 22 cap. by Br. from the brigantine *Gen. Greene* privateer from Weth., 1782; d. in prison at N. Y.
- WHITE, TIMOTHY, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- WHITTLESEY, LEMUEL, app. Lieut. 5th Co., Sixth Mil. Reg.
- WHITMAN, SAMUEL, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- WILLARD, SIMON, in Capt. Hanmer's Mil. Co., on bd. *Slp. Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- WILLIAMS, DANIEL, enl. Capt. Hart's Co., Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg., 15 Feb., 1777, for 3 yrs.; disch. 1 Apl., 1781; was Sgt.
- WILLIAMS, ELIAS, (S.) was at Bunker Hill. (*R. W. C.*)
- WILLIAMS, EZEKIEL, Commissary for care of prisoners, is mentioned (*Mem. Hist. Hjd. Co.*), as among those to whom military commis. were issued by the Gen. Assembly, for services in the Revolution."
- WILLIAMS, ISRAEL (S.) in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- WILLIAMS, JOSEPH, Ens. in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belcher's Reg., Peekskill, N. Y., April 22—10 May, 1777.
- WILLIAMS, OTHNIEL, Capt. 1st Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List, May, 1779; Ens. in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- WILLIAMS, SAMUEL WILLIAM, (N.), (gd.-son of Rev. and Col. Elisha Williams, 1st Rector at Y. C.) b. at Weth., 1752; grad. Y. C., 1773; was 2d Lieut., 6th Conn. Mil. Reg., May 1-Dec 18, 1775; at org. of the Conn. line joined Col. S. B. Webb's Add. Reg. as Lieut., 1 Jan., 1777; prom. Capt., 21 Mch., 1778; the Reg. served on the Hudson in 1777, and the summer of 1778; marched to Rhode Island under Lafayette, taking active part in the bat. there of 29th Aug.; in June, 1779, he helped to check the British advance for Springfield, N. J.; by the reduction of the line Jan. 1 (formation of 1781-83) the reg. became the 3rd Conn. and Capt. W. commanded it for a short time in the fall of that year; he retired from service June 1, 1783; settled in Weth. and was its Town Clerk for 20 yrs.; a rep to the Leg. for several sessions; d. on or about 14 Sept., 1812; mem. of the Soc. of the Cincinnati.—*See Yale in the Revolution*, p. 281.

He was prob. the Capt. Williams who, on the authority of an old lady of the Marsh family of Weth. is said to have escorted Maj. Andre, arm in arm, to the place of his execution, and who used to tell how Andre, when he saw the gallows, gave a great start; and then saying: "It will be but a momentary pang," passed on calmly and firmly.—*Miss E. E. Dana*.

- WILLIAMS, SOLOMON, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; enl. in Capt. Throop's Co., 1st Reg. Conn. line, Col. Huntington, 1 Jan., 1777, for the war; cr. to Cont. Army, Aug., 1778.
- WILLIAMS, WILLIAM, (S.) fifer, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 23 May, d. 30 July, 1775, before Boston.
- WINCHELL, EZEKIEL, cr. to Cont. Army, Aug. 1778; being then of Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- WITHERELL, DAVID, in Col. Canfield's Mil. Reg. at West Point, Sept. 1782.
- WOODHOUSE, JOHN, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776; app. Oct. 1778, Ens. 2d Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., Alarm List; in Jan., 1780, app. Lieut. same Co. and Reg.
- WOODHOUSE, NATHANIEL, in Capt. Hanmor's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug. 1776.
- WOODHOUSE, LEMUEL, (perhaps should be Samuel) in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Mch., 1776.
- WOODHOUSE, SAMUEL, Ens. 2d Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., *Alarm List*, app. Jan. 1780.
- WOODWORTH, LYON, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, May 15, disch. 7 Dec., 1775; in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill, N. Y., Mch.-June, 1777.
- WOLCOTT, DAVID, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775.
- WOLCOTT, ELISHA, in Capt. Hanmor's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776; was in N. Y. campaign of '76, and being a hatter by trade, was advised by Weth. to return home and make hats for the army.
- WOLCOTT, GERSHUN, in Capt. Hanmor's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- WOLCOTT, JOSIAH, service record same as preceding.
- WOLCOTT, SOLOMON, in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; Capt. Hanmor's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- WRIGHT, ASA, in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- WRIGHT, ASHBEL, (S.) in Lex. Alarm Co., 1775; enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 20 May, disch. 16 Oct., 1775.
- WRIGHT, BENJAMIN, one of 22 of crew of privateer brigantine *Gen. Greene*, from Weth., cap. by British, 1782; d. in prison at N. Y.
- WRIGHT, DAVID, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill, N. Y., 22 Apl.—10 May, 1777.
- WRIGHT, EBENEZER, Lieut., app. Jan., 1778, in 2nd Co., Sixth Mil. Reg., *Alarm List*; in Capt. E. Wright's (3rd) Co., 3rd Batt. at West Point, June, 1778.
- WRIGHT, ELIJAH, Capt. of 3d Co., 3rd Batt. commis., Nov., 1776 at Peekskill, N. Y., June, 1778.
- WRIGHT, ELIZUR, enl. Capt. Chester's (9th) Co., 2nd Conn. Reg., Col. Spencer, 13 May, disch. 17 Dec., 1775, before Boston; in Capt. Hanmor's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. for N. Y., Aug., 1776.
- WRIGHT, JOHN, commanded privateer *Enterprise*.
- WRIGHT, JOSEPH, ALLYN, 1st Lieut. 7th Conn. Reg., July 6—10 Dec., 1775; 1st Lieut. 19th Cont. Inf., 1 Jan.-Dec. 31, 1776; 1st Lieut. 10th Conn. Reg., Col. Charles Webb; Capt. 5th Reg., Conn. Line, 1 Jan., 1777; continued as Capt. of a Co. in 2d Reg., Conn. Line (formation of 1781-83) under Col. Hermon Swift; prom. Maj. of 4th Reg., Conn. Line,

Dec., 1781; transf. to 3rd Conn. 1 Jan., 1783 and continued in the service till 1 June, 1783, retired with the army; an orig. mem. of Soc. of the Cincinnati.

WRIGHT, JUSTUS, in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Col. Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill, N. Y., Meh.-June, 1777.

WRIGHT, JOHN, service record same as preceding.

WRIGHT, MOSES, in Capt. Hanmor's Mil. Co., on bd. slp. *Anne*, bd. to N. Y., Aug., 1776.

WRIGHT, WILLIAM, also in Capt. Hanmor's Mil. Co., Aug., 1776; in Capt. Hez. Welles' (4th) Co., Wolcott's Reg., before Boston, Jan.-Meh., 1776; in Capt. Chester Welles' Co., Belden's Reg., Wolcott's Brig. Peekskill, N. Y., Meh.—June, 1777.

CHAPTER XII.

THE MARITIME HISTORY OF WETHERSFIELD.

[BY SHERMAN W. ADAMS, ESQ.]

DURING THE year 1887. (March 5th to October 8th), Judge Adams wrote and published in the *Wethersfield Weekly Farmer*, a series of articles, 27 in number, upon the above-named subject, and entitled "Scraps of Wethersfield History." From these we have condensed, re-arranged and, in part, re-written the following chapter, which contains—in a form better adapted to the purposes of this history—the valuable facts which he had collected. *H. R. S.*]

To speak of "the maritime history" of an inland and purely agricultural town, such as Wethersfield is at present, seems, at first sight, to savor somewhat of sarcasm. If, however, we remember the broad river which winds through its meadows, and which is navigable for vessels of considerable size, from the sea to a point several miles above the town; and if we consider the peculiar fascination which the sea and all that pertains thereto, seems to have for the inhabitants of inland towns, it is not so difficult to realize that Wethersfield has had, ever since the days of its settlement, and to within the recollection of some now living, a history of navigation and commerce, highly creditable to the enterprise of its former inhabitants. The New England States, from the earliest days of their colonial existence, have given birth to hundreds, if not thousands, of hardy, intelligent men, who seemed as much at home upon the sea as upon land, and were ever half-farmer, half-sailor. And these men of amphibious tendencies, as we shall see in the case of Wethersfield, were not confined to the natives of the sea-coast.

Ships and Ship-Building, in the early days of the Connecticut Colony, is a subject which would well repay the labors of any one who should undertake to write it up, *in extenso*. Two centuries ago, the names applied to vessels, as descriptive of their different sizes, rigging, etc., were somewhat different from those now employed. Then, as now, for example, the term "ship" was applied to vessels having three masts and a square "rig." But, it was, also, applied to vessels which, as to size, whatever their style of rig, were quite too insignificant to

be considered as ships, in our present understanding of the term. The *Mayflower*, a large vessel for its day and which bore over a hundred passengers on its famous voyage to New England, in 1620, was yet only registered at 120 tons burden. Other three-masted vessels of that period were the "pink," square-rigged and somewhat smaller than the ship; the "snow," which was nearly barque-rigged; and the "barque," smaller than other three-masted vessels. Of the two-masted vessels, the only kind at first known, was the "ketch," in rig, much like the brigantine of the present day. The terms "brig" and "schooner" came into use at a later period. In 1680, there were but 26 vessels, of all kinds, owned in the Colony, and were thus classified, 4 ships, 3 pinks, 2 barks, 6 ketches and 11 sloops. None of these belonged to Wethersfield; and but one, a ship of 70 tons, registered from Middletown. Hartford had a sloop of 90 tons¹ (the only one of that tonnage in the Colony), which traded with Bristol, England; and the next largest was the brigantine *Dolphin* of New London, and of 80 tons burden. Of the "pinks" above referred to, two registered at 80 tons each; the largest "ketch" was 70 tons; the largest "barque" and "sloop" 30 tons each; and the smallest sloop eight tons. These, and other much smaller craft, were engaged in the West India and European trade, and were probably somewhat under-registered, in order to escape a part of the government tonnage-tax. Many of these Connecticut-built vessels were sold abroad. The Colony's whole commerce, at this period, was very small, and carried on mostly from New London, where all vessels had to "clear" and where a Naval Officer was stationed.² Goods could be imported then only from England, Wales, or some other British coast. This obtained until, in 1702, the number of "lawful ports" in the Connecticut Colony had been increased so as to include Saybrook, Guilford, New Haven, Milford, Stratford, Fairfield and Stamford also.

Difficulties of Colonial Navigation.—We must remember that, in the early times, there were many obstacles to ocean navigation which do not now exist. Many harbors were then unknown, even to those who were engaged in the coast trade; and charts of the inlets and sounds of our coast were unobtainable. Ship-yards were scarcer even than saw-mills; and ships were liable to capture by pirates, and during

¹The ton was then estimated at 2,240 pounds.

²By the Code of 1650, each town clerk was required to keep a registry of the quantity of powder and shot on board any boat or vessel departing from a town—the earliest provision extant as to army official examination of a vessel's cargo.

many years of the Colonial period, by French and Spanish privateers and war vessels. The several Colonies enacted restrictive laws as against each other; and, as early as 1672, the English Parliamentary Acts of Trade and Navigation were made to apply to the Colonies. In 1679, Edward Randolph was made the Royal Collector of Customs for New England, with his office at Boston. In 1680, a customs collector for the Crown, was appointed in each county; and in 1686, William Dyre, the Royal Sur-General of Customs for all America, appointed a deputy collector for Connecticut, at New London. In 1694, vessels were required, by Colonial law, to stop and pay "powder money" to each fort within whose range they came, or else they were liable to cannonade from the fort. In 1702, Saybrook, under a Colonial law, was made a Port of Entry for the Connecticut River, and allowed a naval officer; but neither he nor the Colonial naval officer at New London were recognized by the Crown; and vessels properly cleared from Saybrook were liable to seizure in foreign ports, because they could not produce clearance papers, signed by her Majesty's collector at New London, the then only port in Connecticut established by English authority. Indeed, it was not until 1776, that Middletown became a lawful port of entry and clearance, even under Colonial law; and, in the meantime, Saybrook as such a port, had been abolished; so that there was but one lawful port of entry on the Connecticut River—which is the condition to-day. By act of Congress, Middletown became such a port; the other towns upon the River being made ports of delivery—as they remain to this day.

An excise was laid upon beaver skins, as early as 1638; and trade in these furs could only be done by officers, appointed by the General Court, who collected a shilling per skin, for the Colonial treasury. Wethersfield's first collectors were George Hubbard and Richard Law. In 1659 a duty of 25 shillings for each imported butt of wine, and of 5s for each anchor of liquor, was claimed for the Colonial treasury. Samuel Boardman, ancestor of the Connecticut family of that name was then the collector for Wethersfield. Under the law of 1654, if the liquor was Barbadoes liquor (commonly known as "Kill Devil"), its landing from any vessel was prohibited. In 1662, an act was passed prohibiting the carrying of any corn (grain) or provision out of the River; and the customs-master in each town was required to enforce the observance of this law. It must not, however, be inferred from this that the duties of the customs-master were co-extensive with those of the collector or naval officer of to-day. In the same year the General Assembly required the custom-masters to collect an import duty of 25s

per hogshead, or two pence per pound, on tobacco "according to the law of England." In 1714, an excise or export duty of 20s per thousand was levied on barrel staves, and 30s per thousand on pipe staves, shipped to any of the neighboring Colonies. Wethersfield was, at this time, probably the largest producer of these articles in Connecticut. The following year, a Colonial law imposed a duty upon ship-timber, planks and boards shipped to same provinces; and a duty of 12s 6d was laid upon every £100 worth of goods imported here by non-inhabitants. In 1747, a five per cent *ad valorem* duty was placed upon goods imported from the other Colonies, if the importer resided in this Colony; but if he resided elsewhere the duty was $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. From the operation of this law—cast, bar and slit iron; steel; nails; salt, beaver, leather, deerskins; fish (dry, or salted); train oil; whalebone; rice; tar; turpentine; window-glass and lumber were exempted. But, instead of a duty on goods from Great Britain, the importer received a per cent premium; so that the coasting-trade was placed at a decided disadvantage, as compared with the European, or rather the English. In the same year, a heavy export duty was put upon all staves, headings, ship-timber, planks and bark, shipped from this to a neighboring Colony; and other customs laws were, from time to time, enacted both by Connecticut and the British Parliament, down to the period of the Revolution.

In 1726, a tax of 15s per ton's register was assessed upon the tonnage of vessels; the tax being collectible as other town taxes. This, and other considerations led to the habit of under-rating tonnage of vessels; making them to appear, in the returns, as less than their actual size.

Another hindrance to navigation—which arose after a prosperous coast-trade had been established between the Colonies and the West Indies, was the war between England on the one hand and Spain and France on the other; and, from the interruptions thus engendered, our coast commerce had hardly recovered when the Revolution began. Our own General Assembly, also, established many embargoes upon our own export trade.

For a long time, moreover, there were no light-houses and probably but few beacons, and buoys, along our coast. It was not until 1760 that a light-house was erected at New London; and then, although it was mainly paid for by a lottery, sanctioned by the General Assembly, vessels clearing from other ports than New Haven were required to pay light-house dues for its maintenance.

In 1800, John Cadwell, John Morgan and others of Hartford were incorporated as *The Union Company*, with power to erect "wharves,

piers and bridges" for the improvement of the navigation of the Connecticut River. This company constructed bars at several points between Hartford and Rocky Hill, and even as far as Middletown; and, though it is doubtful whether those constructed at Wethersfield were of any benefit to the channel; yet vessels arriving at or departing from that point, were obliged to pay to the company a tax of from \$5 to \$34, according to their draught of water. The Connecticut River Company, incorporated in 1824, was granted similar powers as to that part of the River above Hartford; and Vermont, in 1825, incorporated a similar company, with power to improve the river's navigation from Hartford to Fifteen-Mile Falls, at Barnet, Vt. By the aid of locks, at Windsor and other points above, navigation was rendered possible for small craft far up towards the headwaters of the Connecticut.

Early Vessels at Wethersfield.—It is pretty certain that Mr. JOHN OLDHAM was the first owner and master of any sailing vessel at Wethersfield, if not in the Colony. When he was murdered by the Indians, July 20th, 1636, near Block Island, he was a resident of Wethersfield, and it was on his vessel (sometimes called a "shallop," but oftener a "pinnace"—both being names given to small schooner-rigged craft) that he was slain. What his cargo was, is unknown, but in Wethersfield, he had raised a crop of Indian corn, and had swine at the time of his death.

In 1642, the River towns were authorized to co-operate in building a "Ship," probably at Hartford. The General Court appointed a committee of eight persons to "carry on the worke"; and Leonard Chester and Rich. Treat were the Wethersfield members. This is the first mention of ship-building in the Colony.

In September, 1648, THOMAS DEMING, of Wethersfield, a "ship carpenter," was granted land, by the Town, "upon the Common, by the landing-place"; both for his house and for "a worke yard." The shipyard then established, the first in Wethersfield, and perhaps in the Colony—was maintained down to a date within the memory of people now living. It was at that part of the Cove margin next west of the residence lately of John Hammer.

In November, 1649, the General Court authorized SAMUEL SMITH "and the rest of the owners of the shipp at Wethersfield, to get and make so many pipestaves, as will freight out the said shipp the first voyage, provided they doe it out of the bounds of any of the Townes vpon the Riever within this Jurisdiction." (*Col. Col. Rec.* I, p. 200.) This ship was undoubtedly built by Deming; and, unless one had been

built by the united action of the Three River Towns in 1642, it was the first built in Connecticut. It was named the *Tryall*, and one "LERREBY" (Larrabee) was its master in 1650; and CHRISTOPHER FOX, of Wethersfield, its boatswain. He died 15 Dec., 1650, at Sadler's ordinary (inn) in Wethersfield, and Sadler was appointed his executor; his inventory (*Htfd. Prob. Wills & Decds* II, p. 4) shows that his books and nautical instruments were appraised at £3 value. Deming, the ship builder, removed to Easthampton, L. I. The *Trial*, in 1662, was owned in New London, and in that year John Edwards, Sr., of Wethersfield, imported sugar in her from the West Indies.

Pipestaves seem to have been the principal article of export at that period. As early as 1641, the law provided for their dimensions and for an inspector of them in each town. Wethersfield was authorized to export 30,000 per annum and Hartford and Windsor 20,000 each. In the northern part of the Wethersfield parish now known as Newington the pipestave industry was so largely carried on, as to give the name of Pipe Stave Swamp to a considerable section there, and Piper's River to its principal stream. The staves were shipped, in bundles, or "shooks," to the Barbadoes and the West Indies; many of them returning thence in the shape of pipes and hogs-heads, filled with molasses, sugar, or rum; while thousands of them were made into casks here, which were filled with salt beef, pork and fish; kiln-dried corn meal, etc., and exported principally to the West Indies. Timber and lumber formed a very large item of export in our earlier Colonial commerce, while West Indian salt figured heavily in our imports.

Shipments of horses, to the West Indies, began very soon after 1700. This trade was continued for more than a hundred years.

In 1730, an official report to the British Board of Trade makes the whole number of vessels in the Colony forty-two; whereof the sloop *Thankful & Ann*, 18 tons, is the only one credited to Wethersfield. But it is probable that of the five credited to Hartford and two to Middletown, some were owned in whole or in part in Wethersfield. The principal articles of export are stated at this time to have been horses and lumber (to the West Indies), and tar and turpentine (to Boston, New York and Rhode Island); while the articles imported (from the West Indies), were sugar, salt, molasses and rum. "European goods" were obtained from Boston and New York. Within the next twenty years beef, pork and flour were added to the list of principal articles exported to the West Indies; and wheat, rye and Indian corn to New York and Boston. Some vessels went to Lisbon and the Mediterranean with fish. In 1756, the whole number of ves-

sels in the Colony was seventy-two, the largest of which were the ship *Lion* and the snow *Leopard*, each 90 tons. The Report from which this appears does not state where any vessel belonged; but it is known that the *Lion* was built in Hartford, and originally belonged there. In 1762, the number of vessels had increased to 114 in the Colony.

Our foreign commerce, as well as our ship building was much crippled during the various wars of the latter part of the 17th and early part of the 18th Centuries. From the report made to the Lords of the Privy Council, by Gov. Leete of Connecticut in 1650, it appears that there were but five vessels in all the towns on Connecticut River, and none of these belonged to Wethersfield. From the same document, we learn that horses, rye, wheat, barley, pease, wool, hemp, flax, cider (made from wild or choked pears), tar and pitch were shipped from Connecticut to the Barbadoes, Jamaica "and other Caribbean islands," Fayal and Madeira; but most of them were taken to Boston and there "bartered for clothing." Sugar, cotton, wool and rum were brought from the West Indies; wine from Fayal and Madeira. "Most people plant most so much tobacco as they spend."

We are unable to give satisfactory statistics concerning the amount of shipping interests in Wethersfield since the middle of the 18th century. The great bulk of the foreign trade was in the exportation of beaver, deer skins, pipestaves, lumber, bricks, grain, beef, pork and fish (the last three articles salted), horses, flax seed and onions. In later days garden seeds and tobacco have been shipped in considerable quantities. Within the last ten years, several thousand tons of ice, annually, have been produced; mostly for use in this State. The imports were mainly of "European goods," salt, rum, molasses and sugar; and "West India goods" in general. Wethersfield was, by Congress, made a "port of delivery," in the Middletown district, in 1799; and so remains to-day.

Warehouses, Landing Places, etc.—In course of time, it became necessary to erect warehouses by the river side. As early as 1662, the Town gave to SAMUEL (son of Gov.) WELLES a piece of land "upon the Common, at the Landing Place, to set up a warehouse, and to no other use whatever." This site was by the side of the present Cove; the Common, at that time, being a much larger tract than at present.

In 1671, the Town gave JOHN CHESTER (son of Mr. Leonard) a warehouse site at the same landing place, and in the same year, his brother Stephen Chester obtained a grant of "2 or 3 rods in breadth, next unto his brother's land, to build a warehouse upon." In 1672, this grant was revoked, but gave Chester, in lieu thereof, a piece north-



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF WETHERSFIELD.



Photo. by
Albert Morgan.

THE COVE.



THE COVE BY MOONLIGHT.

Photo by Jared B. Standish.

east of a piece which he had bought of Thomas Hurlburt. Hurlburt's lot was a small piece, also at this landing place, which the Town had given him to set a blacksmith shop upon.

In December, 1672, the Town, being about to divide up the land on the east side of Rocky Hill, reserved five acres "for a landing place." JOSEPH SMITH, one of the first settlers of that section, was given twenty acres, conditioned that he maintain a road and gate through the tract, to this reserved tract; it being also stipulated with Smith that the five acres thus reserved shall be "for the public use of the Town in general, or for any of the inhabitants in pertickular, for a common landing place, or for building ships, or rather vessels." This tract now belongs to the Town of Rocky Hill, and adjoins the River, just north of, and perhaps including, the ferry landing there, and there was a ship-yard there for many years.

In 1683, another warehouse site was granted, this time to TIMOTHY HYDE, son of George Hyde, a Boston ship carpenter. It was 40 feet square and "below Mr. Stephen Chester's warehouse." In 1689, JOSEPH (son of Rev. Joseph) ROWLANDSON, was given a piece "30 foot square on y^e Common, on y^e bank of y^e Great River, below Mr. Stephen Chester's warehouse," for a warehouse. Finally, in 1691, the Town granted another site for a warehouse to NICHOLAS MOORCOCK—a tract 40 feet square, near Stephen Chester's warehouse—with liberty to build a wharf "in y^e said River" (near the Cove) adjoining his warehouse—the wharf to be free to all the inhabitants of the "town."

These grants show that the landing places on the N. E. corner of the Common was, in those days, a scene of considerable commercial activity. But one of these old warehouses now remains—the old gambrel-roofed building with sides of weather-beaten oak planks, belonging to the heirs of the late Capt. John Hanmer. We think it was last used by that enterprising shipowner, Justus Riley, deceased.

The River, before the year 1700, had already so far shifted its channel from its old position, in the bend N. W. of the Common, as to render the water front at that point now no longer any part of the River proper. It had become the present "Cove." Thenceforth, the place was pretty nearly abandoned as a public river-landing place. As the River's bed was then far (almost three-fourths of a mile) to the east of its present position, opposite to the present Wethersfield wharf—the shipping place was not changed to that point (unless, perhaps, some of it was done from vessels moored alongside the perpendicular bank of the meadow there); but it *was* changed to Stepney. Thereafter, for many years, the river landing at Stepney (very nearly where the ship-

ping at Rocky Hill is done, to-day) was the principal landing place used instead of the abandoned one at the Cove. So, it happened that Stepney became one of the chief landing places on the River. Some evidence of the amount of business that must have been done 150 years ago (and which continued to be done for more than an hundred years) at Stepney, exists in the ancient warehouses still to be seen there. The late Roderick Grimes was the last of the leading shipping merchants there; and his ancestors for several generations had been engaged in the foreign (chiefly the West Indies) trade. The name Stepney was given to the parish there, in 1723.

Nor should we forget, among the old Wethersfield warehouses, that of Justus Riley, Sen., on the South side of Chemical Lane, and once occupied as a seed warehouse by Messrs. Johnson, Robbins & Co. From it Hartford merchants used to obtain supplies of molasses, sugar and rum. From this warehouse, also, Mr. Riley used to send large numbers of horses, overland to New London, for exportation to the West Indies—as many, it is said, as 100 at a time.

But while the bulk of the town's shipping was done at Stepney, some was also done—probably from about 1700 to 1730—on the east side of "the Rocks," northeast of the high ground between the Cove and the River. In 1723, the Town agreed with the heirs of Samuel Buck, whose homestead was then the most northerly one on the east side of High St. (or the Common) for a highway to this landing place, extending easterly along the north side of the said homestead, to the River. As compensation, the Town permitted the heirs to run a fence from the top of the fence to "y^e Great Rock." A meadow road, north of Buck's place, and a dwelling house north of said road, had formerly existed, but the sites of both had been swept away, until the solid rock having been reached, the work of devastation by the floods was arrested. The earliest mention found of this Great Rock is in 1691. Probably the immense mass of soil which has been carried away from that vicinity contributed largely to the filling up of the east channel of Wright's Island.

It is obvious that any wharf built on the east water front of the Buck lot above mentioned could not long exist in a serviceable condition; and, as it could not be approached from the south, it was not easily accessible.

The situation naturally invited an attempt to establish a landing further south. In 1764, Dr. Ezekiel Porter bought the Noyes-Wickham meadow pasture lot bounded S. by road to the present Wethersfield landing; N. by the River and W. by the rears of the High St.



VIEW NORTHWARD FROM A POINT OPPOSITE THE OLD LATTIMER WHARF.



Photographs by J. B. Standish.

Illustrations by Hartford Engraving Co.

VIEW SOUTHWARD FROM THE SAME LOCATION.

homesteads of Nath'l Stillman, Samuel Curtis, Joseph Woodhouse, Francis Hammer and others. This lot, which ranged N. and S., belonged by inheritance to Dr. Porter's daughter, the wife of Frederick Butler. Upon it, Dr. Porter erected a house or shop, on the high ground near the River bank; and Daniel Woodhouse and Capt. Simeon Stillman erected houses, also; and probably a private way led up to these dwellings, from the road on the south. In 1792, a highway was laid out by the Town, extending from the east and west road on the south, to the River on the north. It was laid out near the land of heirs of Dr. Porter in part, and partly over the lands of the other parties mentioned, in such a way as to leave the Woodhouse and Stillman dwellings on the west side and the Porter building on the east. It is probable that soon thereafter, Frederick Butler built a wharf, nearly to the rear of the Porter building. In 1812, this building was bought and occupied by Capt. Samuel Latimer—having previously been occupied by Jonathan Bunce and, after him, by Capt. Jesse Goodrich. This Butler wharf probably became the first of the Latimer wharves, but could not have remained long in use. Only its remains can now be seen, at low water; while the Latimer house, yielding to the gradual undermining of the river bank, has entirely disappeared. It is possible that this wharf was built by Dr. Porter himself, when he built the shop which later became a dwelling. This highway is now known as Water St.

It was about 1819, that Solomon Latimer (father of Capt. Samuel) bought land on the south side of the eastern terminus of the road to the present landing and built a wharf near said terminus (a few rods north of the present steamboat store-house), which for many years was much used as a landing and shipping place—although, for some years prior to the organization of the Wethersfield Wharf Co., this (the second Latimer) wharf, was in a dilapidated condition. Solomon Latimer, also, occupied a two-story dwelling house on the south of the road to this wharf, built by Nathaniel Goodrich, but which was in course of time undermined by the river. The highway to the present landing has always borne the name of "Road to the Great Meadow."

Until after the treaty of peace between England and France in 1763, our foreign commerce had been so much disturbed that Wethersfield had but little doing in that line.

From 1730 to 1795, there is no extant list of vessels, giving their places of ownership, etc. When the traitor Arnold burned New London, in 1781, the Royal Custom House was burned with the rest, and with it all the records of our Colonial commerce up to that time. In

the old *State* Custom House of Middletown, there should be records of registered vessels, etc., from 1776 to 1795, but they are not to be found.

Recurring, now, to the subject of vessels built or owned in Wethersfield, we may mention that when, in 1649, RICHARD SMITH removed from Martha's Vineyard (Martin's, he called it) to Wethersfield, he came in a vessel of his own. He was then about 30 years old, and a son-in-law of Richard Treat, the settler. Perhaps, he was the father of that Richard Smith, Jr., who, in 1674, was licensed to keep the ferry at Wethersfield. But, whoever attempts to distinguish between the three Richard Smiths, at least, in the village in 1649, will find himself involved in a hopeless genealogical tangle.

Among the leading firms of the 18th century who figured in Wethersfield as shipping merchants, was that of the Messrs. WILLIAMS & Co. Its senior member was Sheriff Ezekiel Williams. Jonathan Trumbull, of Lebanon, afterwards Governor of Connecticut, and called "Brother Jonathan," by Washington, (to whom he was a very "right arm" of defense and assistance during the Revolutionary period), was at one time, a member of this firm, and it is probable that Col. Wadsworth, of Hartford, was also connected with its operations. They did a large foreign business; owned, or ran the sloop *Dore*, in 1738-9, to the West Indies. In 1754-5, Gen. Phineas Lyman of Suffield (a conspicuous figure in the French War) and Col. Joseph Pitkin of Hartford were associated with Elisha Williams, Jr., in adventures to the West Indies. in the sloop *Dolphin*. Both these vessels were probably built at Stepney, though, possibly, at the Cove. In the shipping list of the Connecticut Colony made to the Royal Board of Trade, at London, in 1756, they were rated, respectively, as of 35 and 40 tons burden. Gen. Lyman was part owner of the *Dolphin*; and Peter Burnham, at one time, her master. In her outward voyage she carried grain, pipestaves, beef, pork, hay, tobacco, shingles, brick and sheep; and, in return, brought back rum, sugar, molasses and salt. Onions, also, formed a part of almost every export cargo from this town.

The sloop *Lark* was running in the foreign trade between 1740 and 1750; but, as she is not named in the list of 1756, it may be inferred that she was either lost, or worn out. BENJAMIN TRYAN was at one time her master. Amasa Adams, Sen., ship carpenter, had much to do with the construction of both the *Lark* and *Dolphin*; indeed, we find no one else's name mentioned in connection with their building. In 1747, the sloop *Windsor* was in commission, JONATHAN TRYON, master, and he with Timothy Seymour, Sen., seem to have owned her. In 1767-'70, JOHN WEBB, of Rocky Hill, was master of the Slp. *Fair Trader*, in the

West Indies trade, to the ports of Nevis, Antigua and Cat Island (the first land discovered by Columbus and by him called San Salvador), exporting cattle, swine, bricks, shingles and grain. John Robbins shipped much of his grain in her. Beef and pork were "cut up," packed and coopered on the dock at Rocky Hill. In one cargo alone was a shipment of 1,700 pounds of "bread" (ship-bread, of course), baked, probably, in the bakery then existing at Rocky Hill—at Dividend. Capt. Webb also owned the upper wharf at Rocky Hill, the lower one being owned by one Pomeroy. Among the articles brought back from the West Indies were "firestones"—more than a thousand—and *lignum vitæ*. In the crew list of the *Fair Trader*, we find the names of Luke Fortune, Simeon Griswold, Luke Osborn, Seth Belden, Hezekiah Blinn, James Lusk, Prescott and Stephen Bulkeley, of Wethersfield, some of them were afterwards masters of vessels. In one trip—as appears from the log book of the *Fair Trader*—she spoke, or found in port, the sloops of Capts. Goodrich, Warner, Boardman, Newson, Butler and Riley—the full names of these captains are not given, presumably they were all Wethersfield men. Probably *Elizur* Goodrich, *George* Butler and *John* Newson were among them. There were so many Captains Riley and Boardman that it would be quite useless to conjecture as to which of them were met with on this trip.

To illustrate the difficulties of this old time sailing vessel navigation we may mention that it took the *Fair Trader*, in 1768, thirteen days to get from Saybrook Bar to Rocky Hill; and then only by resorting to towing (by row boats), tracking and warping. When Pistol Bar, a little this side of Middletown Upper House (now Cromwell) was reached, it became necessary to "lighten" the vessel, with Mr. Pomeroy's scows, before the sloop could be got over the bar! Two round trips per year were about all a vessel could accomplish, in those days. The difficulties of navigation in Connecticut River are somewhat illustrated by the following letter addressed to Dr. Griswold, by an old resident of Rocky Hill:

"There is one vessel that I do not recollect Judge Adams as having noticed in his history that attracted much notice in its day. It was a full sized ship owned by the Rileys of Wethersfield. There was a Capt. Riley up there that went under the cognomen of Capt 'Debt. Riley.' I think he owned the ship. I have seen it many times. The last time she came up she lay wind-bound for three days just below Saybrook, & was finally 'walked' up the river. It was done in this way. Taking advantage of the tide, a long rope to which a kedge was attached was sent out ahead, then the crew manned the rope & walked

the length of the deck. Each man as he reached the end returned, took hold again in the rear of the last man. It was slow work but they reached Wethersfield on three tides. Between tides the sails were unbent & her upper spars taken down, she was thoroughly refitted. I do not remember her name or what finally became of her. She was, I think about 300 tons burden, her hull was painted white with three black stripes over her wales & upper work; was built much sharper than the generality of large vessels of those days. There was also a large brig owned partly in Htfd. and in Wethersfield, and called the *Sea Island*. During the war of 1812-15 there were two ships & several other large vessels lay at the Island opposite Gildersleeves' in Middletown, and three large schooners lay for a year or more just below 'Hogbrook', one was called the *Archer*, owned by Joseph Bulkely."

The principal obstacle to navigation of the River above Wethersfield was Glastonbury Bar. The General Assembly, in 1764, authorized a Hartford Company to so improve this bar that a depth of seven feet of water might be obtained upon it. Probably, their efforts failed, as, in 1771, Jabez Hamlin, of Middletown, John Ledyard, of Hartford, and Silas Deane, of Wethersfield, were directed, by the same authority, to report what buoys were needed along the River, between Hartford and Saybrook. Again, in 1772, they with Matthew Talcott, Samuel Olcott and John Chenevard, of Hartford; Richard Alsop and John Stocking, of Middletown; and Ebenezer Plummer, of Glastonbury, were directed to place buoys and water marks on all bars and shoals, they to defray the expense (estimated at £337) and to reimburse themselves by a lottery, or series of lotteries.

The brig *Two Brothers*, Capt. Bigelow, master, was from 1767 to 1770, plying between Rocky Hill and the South American ports of Surinam and Pernambuco—making stops, also, at the British West Indies ports of Nevis, St. Lucia and the Barbadoes. In 1768, her mate was Simeon Griswold, of Wethersfield, and from the log kept by him, we learn that her cargoes were of much the same articles as those of the *Fair Trader*. Brick and *onions* made up a considerable part of the freight taken on at Rocky Hill. She carried four passengers, at least. Horses, as usual, were not shipped until the vessel reached New London, whither the animals had been taken overland from Wethersfield. Freight was also taken on at Middletown; and onions from Martin Kellogg's place at Newington; also wooden ware and broom stuff—the latter probably of splints, or broken twigs, for this was before Dr. Franklin's introduction of broom corn into this country. Spanish and French ports seem to have been studiously shunned;

indeed, the then existing influence and commercial limitations imposed by the British government, practically compelled the American Colonial traders to visit only British ports. Surinam was a Dutch port. The *Two Brothers* found at that and other ports, visited on this trip, the vessels of Capts. Rhodes, Harris, Miner and Bulkeley, probably all Wethersfield men—to judge from their surnames. But one trip was taken from Hartford, but a long delay consequent on grounding on Glastonbury Bar, caused a comment duly entered in the log and concluding with “D—— b y° place.”¹ On the passage out, Noah Wiloughby died, and the log says “We hove his body overboard.”

In 1748, THOMAS WELLES, great grandson of Gov. Thos. Welles, and Elizur Talcott were concerned in the building of a vessel at Glastonbury, which, we presume, was launched in Keney’s Cove.

In 1768, Capt. JOHN BULKELEY (son of Charles, Sen.) was running a sloop between Rocky Hill and Nevis—stopping also at Anguilla, one of the Carribean Islands. He carried oxen and cows. The Wethersfield trade was also carried on with Antigua, St. Eustatia, Martinico, Guadeloupe and other islands of the same group; and St. Christopher (“St. Kitts”) was a favorite port. A trade was also springing up with Ireland, whither our vessels carried flax-seed, then and long after one of our staple productions. To Gibraltar and Bombay they carried flour, lumber, “stores for muling,” and mules; the latter were sold in the West Indies. To Lisbon and Bilboa we carried fish and brought back wines; lumber and pot-ashes were taken to England. Some of our vessels went to Berbice, a port in Surinam. We may add that, a hundred years earlier (after the Pequot Campaign, where so many were taken captive) Indians had been taken from the Connecticut River and sold as slaves in the West Indies; though evidence is wanting to show whether any went from Wethersfield.

LUKE DEMING, who at one time, owned the famous Webb house in Wethersfield, was captain of a vessel trading to New York; as also, in 1774, was Levi Riley, with a load of onions, and at the same time John Wright.

The sloop *Ann* was built at Stepney, in 1773, by John Ames and Joseph Dimock, for SAMUEL BOARDMAN, one of the leading merchants of Wethersfield. His store was on the east side of Broad St.; earlier, it had been on Hale’s corner, on the West side. His brother Levi had an eighth interest in the sloop; and John Wright, who assisted in

¹ A most interesting analysis of this old log-book, was given by Judge Adams in a paper read before the Conn. Historical Society, April 13, 1881, and published in the *Conn. Courant* of that date.

building her, became her master—going in his sleigh to Canaan—a six days' trip, to get the iron needed in her construction. This was the sloop in which Capt. John Hammer's Militia Company went to New York, to join the American army just before the battle of Long Island. The *Ann* plied to Dominica and other West Indian ports, in the cattle trade. Capts. Levi Boardman and Charles Bulkley (brother of Capt. John) became masters of this sloop, as also, in 1775, did Luke Fortune. The same Samuel Boardman also built a schooner *The Speedwell*, just after completing the *Ann*. Capt. John Wright wrote to him from New York, in 1773, that Capt. Deane (Barnabas?) had told him that a man-of-war (British, of course) was cruising between Montauk Point and Block Island; and that if the schooner was found with contraband goods on board, she would be seized. It should be explained that all Connecticut shipping, bound south, necessarily passed oceanward between these two points, after having cleared at New London.

In 1772, Joseph Smith, of Rocky Hill (?), Francis Hammer, Jr., Thomas Kilby and Thos. Newson were masters of vessels from this vicinity—the latter, during the Revolution, commanded a privateer. There was a Capt. Williams with a vessel in the West Indies trade, just prior to the Revolution; as also were the sloops *Pottu* and *Hannah* and *Sea Flower* and *Catharine* and the schooner *Industry*, trading from Wethersfield—though whether owned there or not, is uncertain. Capt. ELIZUR GOODRICH (son of Hezekiah) was not only shipmaster, before the Revolution, but the owner of the sloop *Betsy*. There was another sloop of the same name, at about the same time, of which Daniel Collins and Phineas Holmes were masters, and of which, about 1776 or 1777, William Robbins was in command—possibly as a privateer, as she then carried two swivel guns.

Capt. BELDEN BOARDMAN (one of two sons, both captains, of Samuel) commanded the sloop *Polly*, before 1776; she had a crew of six, and was registered as of 67 tons burden—rather large for a sloop in those days. The schooner *Rosemary* was owned by Samuel Boardman, Benjamin Catlin and perhaps others, at about this time. In 1778, Catlin who was, or had been an employee of Boardman, sold out to the latter, in 1778, his one-fourth interest in the vessel. He was at that time or certainly in '77, on board the man-of-war *Trumbull*.

Capt. JOSEPH ALLYN, who came from Barnstable, Mass., to Wethersfield, in 1707, was, in 1721, commanding a sloop between Wethersfield and Boston and seems to have been an active sailor. His daughter Mary, became the mother of James Otis, the Massachusetts patriot. Both the Otis and Allyn surnames are preserved as Christian names

in the Stillman family of Wethersfield with which they are allied by marriage.

The war of the Revolution caused a most serious interruption to Wethersfield's commerce. Embargoes, laid by the General Assembly of the State, forbade the departure of vessels from this State; and, if they ventured to disobey, they were liable to seizure by the British armed cruisers. It was the fate of some Connecticut vessels to fall into the hands of the British. Among these were a sloop, the *Polly*, a vessel called the *Two Brothers*; another called the *Capt. Stillman*, and a schooner, *Olive*, whereof one Bulkeley was master. It is more than probable that these were Wethersfield vessels, since all trace of Wethersfield vessels, just prior to the war, disappear after its close. The following interesting letter written by Jno. Wright, from the original in possession of Mr. W. F. J. Boardman, of Hartford, throws a little light upon the difficulties of commerce during the Revolutionary period:

"New York, October 25th, 1774.

"Sirs—I arivd here Last Sunday, and Capt. Boardman, Kilbey, George Kilborn, George Burr, Daniel Hinsdale all arivd here Last Fryday. Kilbey has Sold his wheat for 3—4 pr bushel and his Oinions for 19 pr hand. I have not sold anything but my wheat yet, and that I sold at 6—4, which is the price curant. Oinions is very dull, the most they are sold for is 20 pt. in goods. But I shall make all the despatch that is possible, and do the best I can with them. I do not intend to stay here more than seven or eight days at furthest. Kilbey has sold fifteen hundred bushels of wheat at Rising of 6s. I could do the same to be brought here in three or four weeks, but I dare not engage, for I have not got cash to purchase it. But I make no thought but I will keep up as high as 6s. if not higher all this fall. Price Curant here is for West Indes Rum 3s, 3d, Jamaca Spirits 4s, 2d. Mollasses 1s 10d. Brown Sugar and Loaf is high, tea 4s 6d. I am Informed by gentlemen that I make Dependence on that flaxseed sells Curent at 9s per bushel, Now and they think it will fetch 12s per bushel Soon. I would be glad if you would Inform Gershom Wolcott of the price of flaxseed and wheat, because he told Me when I Left home if flaxseed would answer he would ship 200 bushels by Me Next trip. On frate I wish you would Engage Me as Much frate as you Can for Next trip. I Believe it would answer you very well to buy wheat, flaxseed or Old Corn to ship here. Old Corn sells at 3s 8d and Rye at 3s 6d. The General Congress I am informed has brok up and there Resolves are Now printing and are Expected here to Morrow so

that I shall be able to Inform you Better how times is by the Next post, which opportunity I shall Embrace, it is very Daingerus to Bring any Counterband goods here Now, for the Man of War and Custom house officers are as strict as ever they were in the world before, that pirate Colding A searchere has seized five vessels and cargoes within this four days, whose cargoes consisted chiefly of tea, and has got them all chained alongside the Man of war ships, they search Every vessel that comes in here, let them come by day or night. Be so kind as to Let My Wife know that I am well and expect to be at home in about A fortnight and find her so. 'No more presant. Sir I am

"Your friend and wellwisher

"JNO. WRIGHT.

"N. B. I pray you would be so kind as Not to let any body the price of wheat, flaxseed or Indian corn because there is some prospect of making something if it is kept private from the Farmer."

Afterwards Wright became part owner of the *Speedwell*, which was commanded in time by Capts. Oliver Treat, Sam. Rose and John Wright, down to 1777. In 1779(?), she seems to have been in service as a *privateer*, under Capt. James Hoyt, having one carriage gun, with small arms.

But some of the old vessels and sea-captains continued in the mercantile marine, notwithstanding the war. When, in October, 1776, the State was in urgent need of salt, for the use of the army, Capt ELIZUR GOODRICH was specially permitted to go with his sloop, the *Betsy*, in quest of this article. He made a successful voyage, taking out, for exchange, 80 barrels of beef, 15 of pork, 25 of flour, 6 oxen and 60 dozen fowls. Our old acquaintance, the *Speedwell*, in July, 1777, received a special permit to go for salt. JOHN DEMING was then her master. He took out 300 bushels of corn, 200 of rye, 20 barrels of rye flour and two of beans, when he sailed from Wethersfield. In 1776, molasses and sugar were shipped from Pomeroy's store, at Rocky Hill, to Norwalk and to New York City. This was, probably, Oliver Pomeroy, the wharf-owner already mentioned.

Capt. ALLYN STILLMAN possessed much skill as a navigator. In July 1777, the State chartered a vessel to import a cargo of salt, and placed him in command. Whither he sailed does not appear, but he came back fully laden. By direction of the State, he discharged half of his cargo at Norwich; the other half (excepting what was needed as ballast) was ordered to be left at Bedford, now New Bedford, Mass.—a favorite retreat for privateers in that day; the ballast to be left at

Hartford. The cargo must have been a large one; for the ballast-stock, left at Hartford, in the Commissary's department, was drawn upon for many months.¹

The history of such of Wethersfield's mariners as were active in the Revolutionary War, either in the infant navy of the United States, or as privateers, has been given in our previous (Revolutionary) history.

Among other owners of vessels in the last century, were Joseph Webb, Barnabas Deane, William Griswold and Justus Riley. WEBB was a wealthy merchant, and died at the age of 35. DEANE built a brigantine, at Wethersfield; and ran it as a privateer, in 1775. She is supposed to have been taken by the British, in the expedition to Penobscot, in 1779. Capt. GRISWOLD, at Rocky Hill, built and owned the brigantine *Minerva*, which was chartered by both the Colony and the United States, and as a vessel of war rendered valuable service. Capt. Riley had several vessels. He was a part owner of the brig *Commerce*, of which James Riley was master; famous for its history, as detailed in *Riley's Narrative*. Capt. RILEY's old warehouse, with its sides of white oak planks, may still be seen, on the bank of the Cove, near the house lately of John Hanmer, deceased. It was probably built before his day, and is on the land granted by the Town, at the "Landing Place," when the River flowed along this same bank.

Wethersfield sea-captains and mariners have been almost "too numerous to be mentioned." The Beldens, Blins, Boardmans, Bulkeleyes, Chesters, Demings, Hammers, Goodriches, Griswolds, Hurlburts, Latimers, Lovelands, Montagues, Newsons, Palmers, Rileys, Rhodeses, Roses, Robbinses, Savages, Stillmans, Treats, Tryons, Webbs, Welleses, Warners, Williamses, Woodhouses, and other families—have contributed to the list which concludes this chapter.

The peculiar prominence given to the culture of onions, at Wethersfield, required the use of many schooners and sloops for the transportation of these bulbs to the general market, at New York. As late as 25 or 30 years ago, vessels laden with onions, mostly in "ropes," were constantly seen lying at the bulkheads of Burling and Peck's slips in that city. But to-day, tobacco is raised on many of the old onion grounds; and steamboats and railroads have obtained the carrying-trade of the onion crops of recent years.

Whaling vessels have been commanded by Wethersfield men. LOTIS WILLIAMS was, in 1887, the master of a whaler in the Pacific fleet; and is

¹ Capt. Allyn Stillman's vessel was the carrier of nearly all this Government Salt during the Revolutionary period. He was a grandson of Joseph Allyn, a prominent citizen of Wethersfield.

probably the only person from this town who follows the seas in this capacity.

Wethersfield and Glastonbury were, by Act of Congress, made ports of delivery, in the Middletown district, in 1799; and so remain to-day.

In No. XXII of these sketches, Judge Adams writes: "Since about the first of July of the present year, the records of the Custom House, for the District of Middletown, have been removed from Middletown, and lodged in the new "Government" building, at Hartford. This has afforded me an opportunity to consult records which I did not have when this series of articles was begun. * * * But, unfortunately, all records of registration of vessels prior to 1804, are missing. It is surmised that they are at Washington; where the evidence they contain would be useful in connection with spoilation claims. So, also, the records of registrations for a period of fourteen years (1810-1824), are gone—no one knows whither. Enrollment records are missing for the four years, 1799 to 1802, inclusive; and for the nine years from 1806 to 1814, inclusive. All these periods were important ones in the maritime history of the township. The earliest official records now known of, for this district (which includes all ports between the districts of New London and New Haven), begin with the enrollments for the year 1795.

WETHERSFIELD MARINERS, SHIP-OWNERS, SHIPBUILDERS AND SHIPPING MERCHANTS.

NOTE—by the Editor.—We have brought the consecutively arranged portion of Judge Adams' *Sketches of Wethersfield's Maritime History* down to the Revolutionary period. It now becomes necessary that the immense amount of notes which he had collected concerning the *Seafaring Men, Ship-Builders, Shipping Merchants*, etc., of the Town, (originally jotted down in loose form for newspaper serial publication and considerably augmented during their publication in the *Farmer*, by his discoveries of new facts and material, as well as by the information from others who were interested in his work), should be sifted, collated and put into some form of arrangement more coherent and easy of reference than that of its original newspaper issue. It is evident that such was the author's intention, if—as at one time appeared to be likely—the series might have been issued in book, or pamphlet form. As he says in closing these "Scraps of Wethersfield History," "it is not claiming too much to say that no other township in Connecticut has had written anything like so full an account of its maritime doings;

and, indeed, few towns have furnished so many navigators, adventurers, ship-owners, and ship-builders. The subject was worthy of the attention it has received, for it has involved great commercial interests, great hardships and perils, and the sacrifice of some lives * * *

I have endeavored, without fee or reward, to rescue from oblivion the names of those who, having 'gone down to the sea in ships' have come to an untimely end. Some rest in their watery graves, there to remain until the sea shall give up its dead; others lie in unknown graves in foreign lands; and, it is due to the memory of those departed ones that some record shall be made of their names and doings while they were with us and of us."

We have deemed it best that this valuable material should be arranged *alphabetically*, and in as condensed form as possible.

A LIST OF SEA-CAPTAINS, SHIP-BUILDERS, SHIP-OWNERS, AND SEAFARING MEN, WHO WERE NATIVES, OR RESIDENTS OF WETHERSFIELD.

ABBEY, STEPHEN, 1810, master of the sloop *Merino*, owned by John Williams, 2d, and built at Stepney. He res. in Glastonbury—*information by Mr. Chas. Williams of Ry-Hill, son of the owner, John Williams, 2d.*

ADAMS, AMASA, Sen. son of Benjamin; ship-builder.

ADAMS, SYLVESTER, s. of Amasa, Jr., and Sarah Griswold, b. 1783; rem. to Midd. and became, with Ackley Gibbs, owner of several vessels on the river.

ADAMS, JOSEPH, s. of Joseph and Melitabel (*Barrett*) was, in 1828, part owner and master of slp. *Galcn*—Stephen B. Goodwin being the other owner.

ADAMS, GEORGE, s. of Uzziel and bro. of the late Horace, lost at sea, 1827 ae. 30; his wife was a sister of the late John Montague; his son George W. now res. Weth.

ADAMS, WELLES, in 1830, with James Blinn and Stephen B. Goodwin part owner of schr. *Wanton*, Capt. Samuel Latimer, trading to Charleston, S. C.

AMES, WILLIAM, at Ry-Hill, 1803, part owner of slp. *Prudence*; uncertain whether he was s. of Robert and Sarah, and b. 1768; or of John and Abigail Butler and b. 1765; if the latter he d. *acc.* to *Hinman*, 1811.

AMES, JOHN, of Ry-Hill, s. of Robert; m. Abigail Butler; d. *acc.* to *Hinman*, 1790; master carpenter of ship yard, at Ry-Hill.

AMES, PHILEMON, s. of John, also ship carpenter; m. Ruth Hurlburt; died ae. 30; had one ch. Eunice, who m. Frederick Robbins; sloop *Prudence*, built 1803, was one of vessels built by Philemon.

ARCHER, BENJAMIN, of Ry-Hill, at one time master of schr. *Archer*. During the Embargo of War of 1812, this vessel, with the *Julia*, and a brig, were laid up for a year or more, below Hog Brook. Capt. Archer's second wife was Chloe (dau. of Wm.) Williams..

AYRAULT, Capt. NICHOLAS, who. d. 1775 ae. 70; prob. gd-s. of Dr. Nicholas, the French Huguenot who came to Weth. about 1686. Prob. engaged in the Virginia trade.

BELDEN, Capt. JOHN, was master of a schooner in the West Indies trade some 110 years ago. He can hardly have been that Capt. John Belden who was in Newbern, N. C. in 1804. Was he a son of Col. John?

BELDEN, RICHARD, gt-grandfather of Seabury, lived well out toward West Rocky Hill a little E. of home of heirs of Dea. Thomas Williams—only the cellar now remaining. He was a Revolutionary soldier.—R. W. G.

BELDEN, RICHARD, JR., son of above, lived in first house west of the Deac. Williams' house, on south side of road. Probably the builder of the ship *Huron*, 1804, the ship *Harry*, 1807 and sloop *Julia*, 1810; possibly of others.

BELDEN, SIMEON AND SON, of Weth., who in 1803, advertise "for sale, freight, or charter the fast sailing, well found and well accommodating Schr. *Marcus*, 900 tons burden, which will be ready for sea in ten days, if not sold." In the same year they advertise the "new and beautiful sloop *Mary*, Sam. Buck, Jr., Master, bound for Norfolk and Baltimore." He was part owner of the *Marcus*, and Unni Robbins and others were partners. If this was Simeon, Sen, he was son of Thomas, by his wife Mary (dau. of Rev. Stephen) Mix and he m. Martha (dau of Rev. James) Lockwood.

BELDEN, SIMEON, of the 3rd gen. from Richard, Sen., was a spar-maker; he learned to make blocks, pumps and spars of Joseph Neff, whose shop stood where Grant's coal yard now is. Soon after learning his trade, he m. a Miss Beckley and removed to Midd.

BELDEN, SEABURY, s. of Simeon and—(Beckley) was 2 yrs. old at time of his father's removal to Midd.; was a large ship builder; removed from Midd. to Hartford some 22 yrs. ago. but during res. at M. built no less than 45 vessels. At Htfd. at Dutch Point he built many vessels. About 13 yrs. ago he, with his son Eugene S. Belden, estab. a ship yard, a little north of Hog Brook, at Ry-Hill where the business of ship-building is still carried on by the 3rd and 5th gen. of ship-wrights in succession, and in the same, or nearly the same yards. Mr. Seabury Belden has built 87 vessels since he began the business. It may interest some to know that the past 40 yrs. has been a developmental period for timber-trees, and the Messrs. B. find ship-timber more abundant and cheaper now than it was 30 or 40 yrs. ago—owing to the introduction of coal-fuel and wire for fencing. [The above was written in 1887.—H. R. S.]

BELDEN, THOMAS, of Hartford in 1795, owner of sloop *Laura*; prob. son of Joseph, of Weth. who was b. 1733 and grad. Yale College; he also owned schr. *Sicift*, in 1804; schr. *Lcader*, in 1805; brig *Matilda*, 1806; ship *Bordeaux*,

1807. These four vessels were commanded respectively by Josiah Deming, John Hurlburt, Humphrey Woodhouse and John Hurlbut, all Weth. men, and the vessels were all in the foreign trade.

BELDEN, ELISHA, noted ship-wright (prob. related to the Richard above noted), builder of brig. *Mary*, 1805; schr. *Nancy*, 1807; brig. *Despatch*, 1808; schr. *Archer*, 1810. His yard was one of the two at Ry-Hill.

BELDEN, JAMES LOCKWOOD, merchant, part owner of the *Marcus*, 1804; s. of Simeon, Sen.; m. Julia, (dau. of Ezekiel Porter, Sen.) Belden. He was the founder of the seed culture in Weth.; lived in house next north of the office of *Weth. Weekly Farmer*; d. in New York, 1847. JAMES LOCKWOOD, Jr., s. above, was a sailor.

BENTON, GEORGE, (Capt.) was among the sea-faring men of Weth. about the close of the 18th century. Probably he was the "Mr. George Benton, Sen." who (as appears from the gravestone in Weth.) died at Martinique, W. I., in 1794.

There was another sea captain of the same name, at the same time, and probably a kinsman, living in Glastonbury.

BLINN, GEORGE, (Capt.) d. Cape St. Nicholas Mole, W. I. 1796, ae. 33.

BLINN, HOSEA, (Capt.) Jr? d. 1819, ae. 43. A Hosea Blinn, Jr. (prob. the same) in 1809 was master of brig. *Connecticut*, in foreign trade.

BLINN, WILLIAM, son of Hosea, above, d. at sea, 1847, ae. 37.

BLINN, JAMES, (Capt.) Sen. d. 1848, ae. 63; built (!) and res. in house occupied by the late Samuel Woodhouse, Esq., his son-in-law.

BLINN, JAMES, (Capt.) Jr., d. "of a Southern bilious fever," 1833, ae. 25. (All the above were in the foreign trade.)

BOARDMAN, ASHEEL, Capt., who was lost at sea, in 1823, at the age of 33, was a son of Capt. Jason, by his first wife, and a half brother of Luther Boardman, late of East Haddam. He was a grandson of the Capt. Jason lost at sea in 1780. Capt. Ashbel was at one time master of the schooner *Richmond Packet* (by his father), which ran between Rocky Hill and Richmond, with occasional trips to the West Indies. He is spoken of as a very smart and able young man.

BOARDMAN, BELDEN, (Capt.) }
BOARDMAN, BUTLER, (Capt.) } See Note on their father Samuel, below.

BOARDMAN, CHARLES, (Capt.) s. of Timothy and Hannah (Crane), b. 1725; m. Abigail Stillman; prob. in W. I. trade and prob. owner, as well as master of his vessel. He d. 1793.

BOARDMAN, GEORGE, (Capt.) s. of Capt. Charles, m. Mary Hanmer and rem. to Schenectady, where he lived to near the age of 90. His son WILLIAM, b. 1756, lost at sea; ae. 19; another son CHARLES, b. 1761, lost at sea, 1780.

BOARDMAN, SAMUEL, (son of Cornet Joseph and Mary Belden), b. 4 Dec., 1744, the great merchant of Weth. m. Naomi (da. of Samuel) Butler. Their son SAMUEL d. at sea, 1794, ae. 18. Another son, BUTLER, d. at sea, ae. 25—even at that age a captain; in 1803, he had a vessel in the Surinam port of Berbice; in 1804 he was in port of Newbern, N. C., whither he had sailed from New York. Another son BELDEN, was master of a vessel lying in port of New York, with cargo of onions, in 1791; in 1794 he was mate of a vessel (Richard Riley, master) from N. Y. to Newbern and New Providence. In 1797 master of the brig, *Mary*, running to Bilboa, owned by Capt. John Newson, of Weth. and Enoch Robbins of New York city; John Robbins, supercargo: freight dry and salted fish; return cargo, salt from Lisbon; in 1799, he was master of the schr. *William*, purchased expressly for him, in the Surinam trade; on the 16th of May, in that year, he sailed from N. Y., and nothing more was ever heard from ship or crew. In the month of March previous, he had written his father that he had lost most of his money by the failure of Messrs. Newson and Robbins.

BOARDMAN, JOSEPH SIMEON, s. of Levi and father of William, Esq., dec'd of Hartford; was not a mariner, but as supercargo, on slp. *Eliza*, was lost by shipwreck, in 1827, in Long Island Sound—all on board lost.

BOARDMAN, JONATHAN (Capt.), prob. s. of Jonathan and Mabel (*Holmes*), b. 1726; m. Martha Cole; master 1784, of schr. *Swan*, at Newburyport from Port au Prince.

"Last Saturday Capt. Jonathan Boardman in the Schooner *Swan*, from Port au Prince, arrived here, who informs us, that on the 6th inst. in Lat. 27 Long. 73 west he was brought to by a brig of about 120 tons burden, mounted with 8 carriage guns, who fired three shot at him and hailed in Spanish, to which Capt. Boardman, being unable to reply, asked if they had any on board who could speak English, on which a man told him in broken English that their Captain was coming on board the Schooner, and then they put their helm a starboard and tried to board the Schooner, but finding themselves disappointed by the Schooner's filling her foresail and hoisting her flying jib, they fired a shot which cut away some of the Schooner's rigging and went through the tack-piece of her foresail, and then asked Capt. Boardman what he was loaded with, who answered "*Molasses*," he then made a motion to have the Schooner go about her business. The brig, Capt. Boardman says appeared to have 25 to 30 men on board."—*Conn. Courant*, Dec. 7th, 1784.

[Boardman, Jonathan, lived in a house older than the present old Boardman house, and which was about ten rods north, on the same side of the road. He appears to have been the town pedagogue, at and for twenty years or more after, the building of the 1712 school-house, that stood on the side of the road, a few rods south of his, on the site where two other school buildings were erected. Capt. John lived in the north side of the present old Boardman house, his son, Jason, who died in 1844, lived in the same house; having, I suppose, added the north half to the other part. The old house, the home of Jonathan, must have been built some time before 1700. The master of the schooner *Walter*, if a Rocky Hill man, must have been Capt. Jason.—*R. W. G.*]

BOARDMAN, JASON, (s. of Capt. John), b. 1762, at age of 18, when his father was lost at sea, succeeded him on the old homestead, and as sailor and sea-capt., later became prominent as a ship-bldr. and owner. He was in W. I. trade; also had a packet-line from Conn. River to Richmond, Va., in

which his sons, Capt. Ashbel and Capt. John commanded as masters.—*Boardman Geneal.* Capt. John was for some time nominal master of the sloop *Julia* (also owned by his father), but he had not the capacity of Ashbel; and when at sea, took along a competent "nurse" as sailing-master; the real commander of the craft. He lived and died in the small house next south of where George Ryer kept hotel.

BOARDMAN, JOHN. (Capt.), gr-gd-son of Samuel, the Settler, and prob. first of the name to follow a seafaring life; b. 1729, at Rocky Hill; m. (1) Grace Rile; m. (2) Elizabeth Warner, left home 25 Sept., 1780, on a voyage and was lost, as was his son ASHBEL, b. 1767, on same vessel; another son, JASON, b. 1762, followed the seas for many years and then engaged in ship-building. Capt. John, the father, lived in the ancient and picturesque building next north of the school-ho. at Ry-Hill, since demolished. Capt. JASON, b. 1762, also lived there; he d. 1803; he was prob. Capt. of the schr. *Walter*, in W. I. trade in 1803. Capt. DANIEL, another son of Capt. John, b. 1771, lived in house now occupied by Benjamin G. Webb. FREDERICK, a fourth s., b. 1765, mate of a vessel owned by his father.—*Boardman Genealogy.*

BOARDMAN, LUTHER. was, with Geo. and Nathaniel Griswold, in 1804, owner of the ship *Eliza Ann*.

BOARDMAN, TIMOTHY. of Midd., (son of Tim. of Weth., and gd-son of Timothy and Hannah Crane Boardman, both of Weth.), b. 1754, was ae. abt. 23 when he became one of the crew of the Conn. armed cruiser *Olicer Cromwell*; and as keeper of the ship's log, recorded what was prob. the most accurate account given of the engagement of that vessel with the Br. man-of-war *Admiral Keppel*, near St. Christopher, W. I., which resulted in the capture of the latter.

BOWERS, EPHRAIM, built the sch. *Sally*, at Weth., 1810.

BRADFORD. (Capt.) William, as early as 1769, part owner of several vessels at Rky-H., where he prob. res.

BUCK, CHARLES, one of the owners of slp. *Eliza*, 1805; associated with Gordon and Daniel Buck, Jr., the former of N. Y., but all prob. of Weth. origin.

BUCK, DANIEL, 2d (called. 1805. D. Jr.), s. of Daniel and Elizabeth (*Williams*) Buck, and father of Daniel B., 3d, now res. in California; he m. Elizabeth (dau. Ezekiel Porter) Belden, who d. in Weth., ae. 103. See *Fam.* 8, *Buck Gen.*

NOTE.—Daniel, Jr. must have been the s. of that Daniel, who abt. 1787, built the house now occupied by Henry Buck, on N. cor. Jordan Lane and Htfd. Ave.; he was father of Daniel Buck, 3d, (now living) in San Francisco. About the same time, 1787, Josiah Buck (bro. of first Daniel) built the ho. now occupied by Edward Buck, nearly opp. to that built by Daniel. Josiah Buck was prob. not a sea-captain.

BUCK BROS. (GURDON AND DANIEL, JR.), were, in 1843, engaged in a large transportation business, mainly between Hartford and New York City, Albany and Philadelphia. In that yr. they, with Chas. T. and George Deming,

David Clark, Roderick Terry, Albert Francis and poss. others, built the steam-schrs. *Lion* at New Haven, the *Seneca* and *Uncas* at New York, and estab. "Buck's Transportation Line" between Htfd. and N. Y. These vessels, commonly called "propellers," registered a little less than 200 tons burden. Albert Francis commanded the *Seneca*, Chas. T. Deming the *Lion*, and Geo. Deming the *Uncas*; being succeeded, 1845, by Daniel A. Mills. If the Demings were of Weth., it will be seen that the old town was a prominent factor in the history of this fleet. In 1844, another vessel, the *Suchem*, was added, of which Geo. Deming became master. In 1847, the *Oscola* was added, under Capt. Mills as master. The Captains of these vessels were chosen from the "packet-schooners" and sloops, whose "line trips" were broken up by the advent of these steam propellers, which in turn, gave way to the larger and more convenient steamboats; and these finally were largely superseded by swifter railway trains.

BUCK, DUDLEY, bro. of above Daniel, res. in Htfd., and they were the owners of vessels almost too numerous to mention. He was the father of the famous musical composer, Dudley Buck, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

BUCK, JOSIAH (Capt.), d. 1807, ae. 66; shipmaster (*Am. Mercury*, 1803), had schr. *Buck* at St. Kitts, W. I.; may have been the one meant as J., Jr., as in the foreign trade 1804, and of slp. *Mary*, 1805; m. Hannah (sister of Hon. Silas) Deane.

BUCK, HENRY, d. at Port au Prince, San Domingo, 1815, ae. 29.—*Weth. Ins.*

BUCK, SAMUEL, Sen., (Capt.), died abt. 1821.

BUCK, SAMUEL, JR., (Capt.), father, I think, of wid. of late Alfred Francis, Esq.; in 1803, master of "the new and beautiful" packet slp. *Martha*, plying betw. Weth. and Norfolk, Va. and Baltimore, Md. *Am. Mercury*, Nov. 17, 1803; prob. the same, who was mate (1794) of schr. *Betsy*, Capt. Fr. Bulkeley, from Ry-H.

BULKELEY, ALLEN, (bro. of Stephen, Jr.), b. 1786; in 1817, pt. owner of slp. *James*; in 1832, he and Steph. B. and Alijah Collins, owned slp. *Orbit*, of which Steph. was mstr.

BULKELEY, CHARLES, Sen., if not himself a mariner, was the father of an active brotherhood of sailors.

BULKELEY, CHARLES, JR., ment. as being at sea, 1790; d. W. I., 1799, ae. 38.—*Weth. Ins.* s. of Capt. Chas. and Mary Griswold; he m. Eunice Robbins.

There was another Charles, who came to Weth. from Colchester and m. Prudence (wid. of Maj. Edward) Bulkeley—by whom he had 2 ch., one son *John*, who m. a wid. Dix and rem. to Wolcott Hill, Weth. It does not appear that he was a mariner.

BULKELEY, DAVID, (Capt.), s. of Gershom and Abigail (Robbins) Bulkeley; d. 1810, ae. 66; may have been a sea-captain, but more prob. was the Revolutionary cavalry officer.

BULKELEY, EDWARD, (Capt.), (s. of Chas. and bro. of Cpts. John and Prescott, of Weth.), was one of the most skilful navigators of his day, if we may judge from his log-book; was a W. I. trader, carrying horses and cattle mostly, a very perilous trade at that time, in the slp. *Fair-Trader*; in 1785-6, the *Pamelia*, prob. named after his dau. In 1768, he commanded the he m. (1) Rachel (dau. Oliver) Pomeroy; m. (2) Prudence Welles, both of Weth; he d. 1787, ae. 46; bu. at Ry-H. From his tombstone, he appears to have held the mil. title of Major. He res. in the long (brick) house near The Landing built by Pomeroy, afterwards occup. by Abijah Collins. His wid. m. (2) Capt. Charles Bulkeley, from Colechester.

BULKELEY, EDWARD, (s. of Charles, and bro. of Cpts. Edward and Prescott), m. Honor Francis and raised a large family, of whom some were sailors. He d. 1807, ae. 82; in 1818 was associated with Joseph Bulkeley and Richard Grimes, in the slp. *Eagle*.

(It is somewhat difficult to distinguish one Edward from another. No less than *eleven* of this name are ment. in Rev. F. W. Chapman's *Mss. genealogy* of this family, and he did not get all of them. Also, between the *Edmonds* of this family there is much room for confusion.)

BULKELEY, EDWARD, (Capt.), (s. of Capt. John), b. 1767, m. Eunice Bunce, of Weth.; d. 1805, ae. 38; left several ch. among whom was John Bunce Bulkeley, who d. at Port au Prince, 1822, ae. 25; this Edward may have been the E., who owned one-third of schr. *Betsy and Mary*, 1800.

BULKELEY, EDMOND, s. of Joseph, b. 1787; m. Nancy (dau. Justus) Robbins; was part owner of slp. *Hope*, 1818; and, 1819, with his bros. Henry and Asahel and Jason Boardman, owned pkt. schr. *Richmond*; in 1821, with Rich. Robbins, Moses Dimock and Luther Goodrich owned slp. *Nancy*; and with Steph. and Allen Bulkeley, the slp. *Dean*; failed in bus., drifted to N. Orleans, where he d. in penury; wife d. in N. Y.

BULKELEY, EDMOND, (Capt.), (s. of Jonathan and bro. of Capt. Jonathan), m. Prudence (dau. Col. Elias) Williams; res. on main road, at Ry-H., nearly opp. the Joseph Bulkeley place.—*Chas. Williams*.

BULKELEY, FRANCIS, (Capt.), (s. of Capt. John), b. 1757, was a somewhat noted navigator, mstr. of schr. *Betsy*, sailing from Ry-H., 1799; prob. owner and mstr. of brig *Fortune* (Sam. Buck, 24 mate), capt. by the French on voyage to Barbadoes, 1800, John Morgan and John Caldwell, of Htfd., owners of cargo. Capt. Fr. B. m. (1) Rhoda (dau. Capt. Elisha) Griswold; m. (2) Elizabeth (dau. Ezek'l) Fosdick; res. in ho. next N. of High St. School-ho.; and he d. 1803, on brig *Ontario*, Capt. Tim. Stillman, mstr. His s. William d. on same vessel, in 1802, ae. 21.

BULKELEY, FRANCIS, (Capt.), s. Capt. Francis, d. at sea on board brig *Regent*, off Cape Trafalgar, in 1817, ae. 29.

BULKELEY, GERSHOM, (s. Hosea and Abigail *Griswold*), b. 1789, m. Laura Goodrich; was in shipping bus. with his father, who was a sea-captain.

BULKELEY, HOSEA, (Capt.), of Step., father of above Gershom; the Custom Ho. recs. show him to have been mstr. of ship *Enterprise*, 1810; he m. Abigail Griswold; he d. 1838, ae. 82; res. in ho. once the Butler tavern, now occup. by Jos. Halligan.

BULKELEY, JAMES HENRY, s. of Capt. Francis, by his 2d wife, Elizabeth Goodrich; b. 1834; rem. to Phila.; had s. James Hy., a paymaster in U. S. N. during the Civil War, and who was present at attack on Ft. Fisher, Ft. Hatteras and elsewhere and remained at sea until his dth., 1873.

BULKELEY, JOSEPH, evidently a leading ship-owner; as early as 1804, he, with Jason Boardman, were owners of sch. *Walter*, in foreign trade; and in same yr. Rich. Belden built for him the ship *Huron*. In 1805, he owned brig *Mary*, blt. by Elisha Belden, Jr.; in 1809, he owned the *Dispatch*, blt. by same Belden; in 1810, the schr. *Archer*—all eng. in foreign trade. He was father of Henry and Walter W. Bulkeley, and, if so, b. 1742; was very prominent in civil affairs and offices of Stepney.

BULKELEY, HENRY and WALTER W., sons of Joseph (above) and Mary Williams, of Ry-H.; b. 1793 and 1797. Henry m. Martha Tucker, and Walter W. m. Lucy Robbins. The bros. did a large shipping business and were part owners of quite a number of vessels. W. W. d. from exposure at time of the burning of the Steamboat *Pennsylvania*, March, 1834, in Delaware River, on which he was a passenger; his wife (dau. of Levi Robbins) lived until 1830; he was for some time Town Clerk of Ry-H.

BULKELEY, JONATHAN, Capt. mstr., 1795, of slp. *Emily*, belonging to himself and Ackley Riley; in 1799, had slp. *Sally*, owned by said Ackley R. and Levi Edwards; in 1804, mstr. of slp. *Allen*, owned by Jas. Fortune and Levi Butler; was prob. the Jona. who (b. 1750) m. Mary Edwards; res. at Dividend, where he d. 1836; at one time peddled gds. in the South.

BULKELEY, OLIVER, (s. Peter and Abigail *Curtiss* and gd-s. of Edward and Dorothy B.), b. 1744; d. at sea, 1776.

BULKELEY, PETER, (s. Rev. Gershom), b. 1664, lost at sea, ae. 37; m. Rachel (dau. Capt. Samuel) Talcott.

BULKELEY, PRESCOTT, (bro. of Cpts. Edward and John, above), was, in 1768, with Stephen Bulkeley, of the crew (poss. passengers) of the *Fair Trader*. His vessels ran to the W. I.; and at the ports of Nevis, St. Eustatia, Antigua and Martinico, one was almost sure to find some vessel commanded by one or the other of these bros. He m. Lois Williams, of Ry-H. (?), 1774, and d. 1791, ae. 47; bu. at Ry-H.

BULKELEY, RALPH, (s. of Joseph and Elizabeth, above), in 1807, pt. owner of slp. *Jack*; 1809, owned slp. *Prudence* and apparently then res. in N. Y.; in 1810, was associated with Abijah Collins, Hosea Bulkeley and Joseph Neff, all of Ry-H., as owner of the ship *Enterprise*, built at Weth. that yr. for the for. trade.

BULKELEY, SIMON, (s. Capt. Prescott), b. 1774; d. in W. I., unm'd, ae. 18.

- BULKELEY, STEPHEN**, (Capt.), res. at Dividend, N. of the mill; d. 1813, ae. 64; not ment. in *B. Gencl.* by title.
- BULKELEY, STEPHEN, JR.**, (s. Stephen and Martha Marsh), b. 1783; mstr. slp. *Allen*, 1805; of slp. *James*, 1815; of slp. *Dean*, 1817; as late as 1840, with Wait and Gershom Bulkeley, owned schr. *George*; res. at Dividend and d. 1865.

BULKELEY, WAIT, (half bro. of Stephen, Jr., and Allen), pt. owner of schr. *George*; d. 1807.

BULKELEY, WILLIAM, *A Miss. Bulkeley Genealogy* by Rev. F. W. Chapman, ment. two Williams, both "washed overboard and dr.," July 23, 1788, one said to have been a s. of Capt. Edward B., b. 1773, which would make him, ae. 15 yrs. The other a s. of Gershom B., b. 1754. The latter appears to have belonged to Ry-H., but I think his father was not Edward or Gershom, but Capt. John.

A correction, furnished to *S. W. A.* by XXX, "a descendant of the Bulkeley and Belden families," says he was son of Gershom and Thankful B.; and that his father built for him the ho. just S. of the South School House in Ry-Hill, and now occup. by William Bulkley Boardman. He m. Mabel Wilcox (of present Cromwell), and after his death, she m. Wait Robbins, Jr.

BUNCE, HEMAN, of Weth., mstr. of schr. *Milo*, 1823, owned by Dennison, Morgan & Co., Htfd.

BUNCE, JARED, Capt., whose mother was a Stanley; he was b. 1759; died 1823; was prob. in Charleston, S. C., trade, where and also in Phila., he res. for some yrs.. A dau. of his was wife of Rev. Alfred Wright, missionary to the Choctaw Indians; adv. to sail in schr. *Sally*, Oct. 20, 1803.—*Am. Mercury*. See, also, *Bunce Gencl.*, in our 2d Vol.

BUNCE, JONATHAN, prob. a sea-captain, before he became a wharf-master.

BUNCE, RICHARD, Capt., in Nov., 1804, sailed from New London in the Htfd. schr. *Ann*; in W. I. waters his vessel was seized by a Br. brig, two of his crew impressed and the vessel sent to Antigua as a prize.—See *American Mercury*, for a letter dated of 26 Feb., 1805, by him, narrating above facts.

BUNCE, THOMAS, JR., Capt., master of sloops *Betsy*, *Edward*, *Branch* and *Nancy*, and of schr. *Lucy*, in periods between 1797 and 1823; also, a part owner in some other vessels.

BURNHAM, JOHN, Capt., (son of Capt. Peter), a noted navigator in his day; b. 1758; served in Continental Army, 1777; later was in Capt. Chas. Butler's privateer; also capt. of slp. *Camilla*, in 1792, mstr. of ship *Hope*, in N. Y., and European trade; capt. by Algerian corsairs and made a slave to the Dey of Algiers; was ransomed for \$4,000 by the British Consul and through his efforts, aided by Col. David Humphreys, then U. S. Minister to Portugal, Congress provided for the ransom of his crew at \$2,000 apiece. In 1796, he was mstr. of Baltimore ship *Carrollton*, built under his supervision at Chatham, Conn., and was in Balt. and Eng. trade.

Abt. this time, 1798, he m. a Colchester lady, and settled on the old homestead at Weth.; in 1802, rem. to Auburn, N. Y., d. at dau.'s res. Buffalo, N. Y., 1837. Stuart (Washington's artist) painted his portrait.

BURNHAM, PETER, Capt., b. 1723, commanded (among others) *Dolphin* in W. I. trade; res. in ho. on site of former Lyon House, N. side.

BUTLER, BENJAMIN, (Stepney), with Jason Boardman, owned brigantine *Hiram*, 1795; also, slp. *Two Brothers* and schrs. *Betsy* and *Nancy*, 1797; owner of slp. *Allen*, 1803; owner of schr. *Kitty*.

BUTLER, ELISHA, rem. from Weth. to Ry-II. abt. 1671; his desc. numerous; his ho.-std. next to the Midd. line, on E. side of road to M. line Capt. Elisha, who d. at Ry-II., 1783, ae. 34, was as Dr. Griswold thought a military captain; but says there was an Elisha B. from here who d. at sea in 1799.

BUTLER, GEORGE, (Capt.), s. of Capt. Samuel, in 1780, obt. special permit from Gen. Assemb. to ship corn to Bermuda, and bring back salt as a return cargo. In 1803, he commanded brig. *Peggy*.

BUTLER, HENRY, sailed the slp. *Ann*, 1798.

BUTLER, JAMES, in 1804, mstr. of Justus Riley's slps. *Nancy* and *Susan*; in 1806, ran the brig. *Betsy* for the bros. Timothy and Josiah Savage, built at Weth.. 1799—both vessels in the W. I. trade.

BUTLER, JASON, (s. of Benjamin), d. at sea, ae. 23, 1800.

BUTLER, JOSEPH, (Capt.), d. Ry-II., 1826, ae. 50; in 1806, was mstr. (succeeding Jason Boardman) of Joseph Bulkeley's brig *Mary*, built by Elisha Belden, Jr.; in 1807; he was Capt. of new ship *Henry*, blt. by Rich. Belden, for Joseph Bulkeley; in 1809, mstr. of another of J. B.'s vessels, the brig *Dispatch*, built by Elisha Belden, in 1808; in 1816, mstr. of schr. *Archer*, built and owned by same parties—all in the foreign trade; he res. in ho. now occup. by Mrs. Lucy (?) Smith.

BUTLER, JOSIAH, Dr. R. W. Griswold says a Capt. of this name (supp. to be a sea-Capt.), once res. on E. side of road, opp. Ry-II. meeting-ho., perhaps the Capt. B., who, in 1803, was mate of brig *Peggy*, then at Port of St. Kitts.

BUTLER, LEVI, (with Elisha Seymour), owned slp. *Polly*, 1798, and in 1803, he and James Fortune bo't the slp. *Allen*.

CHURCHILL, SAMUEL, pt. owner of slp. *James*, and perhaps other vessels, in 1794, in coasting trade.

CHURCHILL, JOSEPH, both mstr. and owner of slp. *Delight*, 1803, in coasting trade.

CHESTER, LEONARD, Jr., Capt., b. 1777, was lost at sea. We think that his father, who m. a dau. of Col. Wm. Williams, of Pittsfield, Mass., and d. 1803, was also a sea-captain. Certain he was engaged in foreign trade.

CHESTER, JOHN NOYES, Capt., (a bro. of above), b. 1783, was also lost at sea. Both these Che-ters were gd-sons of the first Col. John, and nephews of the second Col. John Chester. See Caulkins *Hist. N. London*, p. 235.

CLAPP, ELIJAH, Capt. mstr. slps. *Factor* and *Betsy*, abt. 1796; prob. res. Htfd.

CLAPP, JOHN, Capt., (nephew of above), m. Mary Kilby (prob. dau. Capt. Thomas K.), left 5 ch.: Daniel, the youngest m. Elizabeth Beadle, and was father of Col. John B. Clapp, of Htfd., Capt. John d. 1822, mstr. of brig *Lucy*, 1799.

CLAPP, NORMAN, Capt., (father of Capt. John), res. in Weth.; in 1798, was mstr. of slp. *Betsy & William*; 1806, of schr. *Hope*, in W. I. trade; he m. (1) Huldah Wright; m. (2) Mary F. Wright.

CLAPP, NORMAN, Jr., (bro. Capt. John), had the slp. *Friendship*, 1815.

CLAPP, ROSWELL, Capt., mstr. slp. *Allen*, 1806.

COOMBS, SOLOMON, W., mstr. of schr. *Marcus*, 1804, in foreign trade, owned by Unni Robbins, Simeon and James L. Belden. He may have been son of Andrew, who d. 1796, ae. 82.

COLLINS, ABIAH, one of the most enterprising ship owners of Stepney; had a store at The Landing, will remembered by many; in 1804, he, with Jason Robbins, owned the schr. *Regulator*; he was pt. owner of schr. *Friendship*, 1805; in 1810, pt. owner of ship *Enterprise*; in 1815, of the slps. *Julia* and *James*; in 1823, of slp. *Leader*; in 1826, of slps. *Flash* and *Falcon*; in 1827, sole owner of slp. *Martha*; in 1828, pt. owner of slp. *Pearl*; 1832, of slp. *Orbit* and schr. *Avon*; 1835, of schr. *Frances Tryon*; 1839, of schr. *Exchange*. He was prob. a descendant of Rev. Nath'l Collins, first minister at Midd., or else of Sam Collins. Sam Collins, Jr., seems to have been first of the name in Weth., where he rem. from Midd., where he was b. 1668.

COLLINS, FREEMAN, in 1804, mstr. of brig. *Betsy*, built at Weth., 1799, Josiah and Timothy Savage, owners.

CRANE, CHARLES, mstr. slp. *Merino*, 1812.

CRANE, GEORGE, Capt., (prob. desc. of Benjamin, the Settler, 1657), mstr. of vessels in W. I. trade. It is told of him that being required by the regulations of a Spanish sea-port, to spend the money received for his cargo in that port, he evaded the law by secreting the coin in the squashes or "calabashes," bought from the natives, and getting them on board his vessel with other market produce. He also held the military rank of Captain and removed to Sheffield, Mass.

CRANE, THOMAS, res. in house which stood where Robbin R. Wolcott's ho. now stands and which was burned 1805; he was a very capable and much respected sea-captain; his descendants are to be found in Auburn, N. Y.

CURTIS, ———, a Captain of this family, (perhaps the Josiah who d. at Ry-H., 1832, ae. 88), was mstr. of slp. in W. I. trade, 1793; he may have been the Capt. of ship *Mary*, taken by the French, 1798.

CURTIS, HON. JOHN, of Weth., though a distinguished lawyer in his day, abandoned his profession to become the Secretary of the New London Society, United for Trade and Commerce—prob. the first Company ever incorporated in Conn. Colony for business purposes, in 1732. Its principal business was shipping and whaling; the latter industry may be said to have begun with this company. The corporation however, became early involved in serious losses by which Mr. C. was bankrupted. Meanwhile, he had become a resident of New London. The General Assembly, apprehending that it might have exceeded its own powers, repealed the act of incorporation, holding that the Crown alone had the right to exercise such powers. See Caulkins' *Hist. N. London*. p. 243.

DEANE, BARNABAS, Capt., (bro. of Silas), not only a sea-captain; but an owner of vessels during the Revol. war—at which time he was one of a secret mercantile co-partnership, of which the other members were Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth, Gen. Nathaniel Greene of R. I., and, it is believed, Gov. Trumbull of Conn., the original "Brother Jonathan." In 1870, Deane was partner with John Wright, Justus Riley and William Griswold—all sea-captains—in shipbuilding at Weth. and Ry-H. After the Revol. he rem. to Htfd.; he gave his ho. there (once occupied by Nelson Hollister, in Grove St.) to his nephew Jesse (s. of his bro. Silas). This neph. left a dau., who m. Horatio Alden, the father of Deane Alden. Hannah Deane, sister of Barnabas and Silas, m. Capt. Josiah Buck, of Weth.

DEANE, BARZILLAI, (bro. of Capt. Barnabas and Silas),, supposed to have been a sea-captain, d. 1788, and was bu. at Weth.

DEANE, JOHN, (bro. of Capt. Barnabas and Silas), d. at sea, 1798; prob. a sea-captain. See also *Deane Geneal.*, Vol. II.

DEMING, ALLYN, S., d. New Orleans, La., 1821, ae. 27; prob. sailor; allied to the Stillmans, and bu. by side of Capt. Lemuel Deming, in Weth. bu. yd.

DEMING, ASA, pt. owner of schr. *Industry*, 1795; in 1797, he, with Philo Goodrich, owned slp. *Charlotte*.

DEMING, ASHBEL, had schr. *Venus*, 1807, owned in Midd.—foreign trade.

DEMING, ASHBEL, had the *Julia*, blt. at Ry-H., for Jason and Hosea Bulkeley and others—foreign trade.

DEMING, DANIEL, of Rocky-H., d. at sea, Apl. 23, 1748, ae. 29.

DEMING, JESSE, prob. the same whose ho. stood nearly opp. the Chas. Francis' ho.; mstr. sloop *Fame*, 1805; poss. not of Weth.

DEMING, JOHN and CHAUNCEY, 1804, and others, owned schr. *Nancy & Catherine*.

DEMING, JOSIAH, Capt., (father of Capt. Daniel,) who d. 1805, ae. 46). Custom House records show that Josiah was mstr. of slp. *Lora*, 1795, owned by Thos. Belden of Htfd., and Jacob Williams of Weth.; also schr. *Prudence*,

owned in Chatham, 1797; slp. *Jay*, 1798; slp. *Pollu*, owned by Elisha Seymour and Levi Butler, both of Weth. 1798; slp. *Eliza*, owned by Caleb and James Griswold, 1804; all in coasting trade. In 1804, he became mstr. of schr. *Swift*, in for. trade, owned by Thos. Belden, of Htid.

DEMING, JOSEPH, Capt., died on passage from Savannah, Ga., 1805, ae. 46; son of Josiah, (son of Josiah) and wife Susanna.

DEMING, GEORGE and LEMUEL, bros. of New Haven, prob. brought up in Weth., owned schr. *Victory*.

DEMING, LEMUEL, Capt., in 1772, capt. of vessel to N. Y. City; d. 1790, ae. 55; was soldier in Revol. Army, 1777; and son of Lemuel, Sen., who was son of Jacob, who m. Elizabeth Edwards, of the Jonathan Edward's family.

DEMING, POWNELL, Capt., of Weth., m. Abigail (dau. of Eleazer) Hubbell, of New Fairfield, d. 1783.

DICKINSON, ASHBEL, Capt., d. 1825, ae. 50; sea-captain.

DICKINSON, ROCKWELL, (bro. of above) d. at sea, 1824, ae. 22.

DICKINSON, SETH, ran the *Hornet*, 1811.

DICKINSON, WILLIAM, (son of Harvey and Hannah) lost at sea, 1823, ae. 19.

DIMOCK, DAVIS, Capt. mstr. of many vessels in W. I. trade; had schr. *Chance*, as early as 1797; d. at E. Haddam, Ct., 1798 of yellow fever contracted in W. I.

DIMOCK, JOSEPH, JR., Capt., a prominent sea captain; son of Joseph, Sen., earliest of the D family in Weth.; res. and prob. was born in Ry-Hill; supposed to be a desc. of Joseph, of Barnstable, Mass., and a ship builder by trade; later in life rem. to Granville, N. Y., where he d. ae. 89; his wife was a Williams and d. 1807, ae. 71. Another JOSEPH, JR., Capt., was drowned at Bermuda, 1819, ae. 49, leaving wid., Sarah (Warner) and 11 ch.; his oldest son Moses lost at sea, 1812, ae. 22, single; another son WILLIAM DAVIS, lost at sea in same yr. ae. 19, being at this early age mate of a ship, and was seized by French privateer, and with his crew paroled. was passenger on a vessel returning from France, when the vessel was lost—only one person being saved. Capt. Joseph D. Jr., was mstr. of slps. *Jack* and *Ursula*; schrs. *Peggy* and *Hope*, and brigs *William* and *Sampson*, all in the foreign trade and hailing from Conn. River; also, 1810, of slp. *Merino*.

DIMOCK, SAMUEL, (son of Capt. Joseph, and bro. of Capt. Davis.) a leading ship-builder at Ry-Hill; also mariner; master 1804, of schr. *Mariner*; owner between 1803 and '4 of schrs. *Mariner* and *Victory* and of brigs *Eunice* and *Halkar*, all in foreign trade. Custom Ho. recs. mention following vessels built by him: slp. *Mary*, 1803, brig *Eunice*, 1805; schr. *Victory*, 1806; brig *Wanderer*, 1810.

DIX, JACOB, pt-owner, 1805, of slp. *Juno*; he must have been the father of the late Roswell Dix, and gd.-father of Jacob Dix, now of Newington. His wife was a sister of the late Samuel Hammer and he resided at lower end of Wolcott Hill. The Dices are descendants of Leonard, the settler of 1645.

DUDLEY, CHAUNCEY, Capt. (prob. of Midd.) built part of the last vessel launched at Ry.-Hill, before the coming thither of Seabury and Eugene S. Belden; built the brig *Energy*.

DUNN, RICHARD, Capt., d. Ry.-Hill, 1791, ae. 69; his dau. Mary m. 1769, Alexander Grimes. *Dunn* is not a Ry.-Hill name, but there is record of a Dunn dying here at an early date; and Capt. Richard may have belonged here in early life. He came to Ry.-Hill, however, later in life, from Newport, had lost a fortune, which, it is understood, he had made in the slave trade, bringing negroes from Africa to the W. I.—a business not disreputable in his day. New Eng. vessels carried thousands of blacks from the free barbarism of Africa to the free barbarism of Am. slavery. But, by the time of Capt. Dunn's death, people were beginning to view this traffic differently.

EDWARDS, JOSEPH, of Weth., according to official register, mstr. of slp. *Delight*, 1795.

EDWARDS, LEVI, of Weth., accor. to same authority, mas. of schr. *Lively*, 1796.

The above prob. descendants of John Edwards, the settler, who res. S. W. side Broad St., 1636, and m. (as 2d wife) wid. of Abraham Finch, Jr., killed by Indians in the massacre at Weth. His desc. have been more numerous in Glast. and Ry.-Hill, than in the older township.

FLOWER, ARTEMAS, master slp. *Miller*, 1808.

FORTUNE, LUKE, Capt., d. 1827, ae. 75. In June, 1784 he, with Justus Riley adv'd. for horses, 4 to 6 yrs. old, which they wanted for export, in exchange for "good English rum, or other W. I. goods," and (as pr. newspaper of July 9th, same year) he sailed from N. Lond. on slp. *Industry*, for W. I. See also *ante* p.

FORTUNE, JAMES, prob. son of above; res. in ho. on site now occupied by the late John Amidon.

FRANCIS, ALBERT, in 1834, was master of schr. *Triton*, owned by Daniel and Dudley Buck and himself—all Weth. men, tho' all resided in Htfd., and extensive ship owners and shippers.—See *Buck*.

FRANCIS, CHARLES, Capt. in 1805, master of Justus Riley's slp. *Nancy* and *Susan*; 1806, of brig. *Perseverance*, also, Riley's and master of same in 1809; all in for. trade; in 1815 master and pt. owner of new slp. *Henry*, owned by Caleb Griswold, Lydia Olmsted and Anson G. Phelps; he was a son of the first Charles and m. Sarah (dau. of Camp. and Mehitabel Baxter Adams. He left but one son, Charles 3rd, who m. Emily Blinn and d. few yrs. since, his ho. being next N. of Gen. Leonard R. Wells'.

FOX, HIRAM, in 1820, had schr. *Laura* built at Glast. that yr. for Sol. Porter, Jr., of Htfd. and Jesse Goodrich of Weth., his wife Sally bu. at Weth., 1823, ae. 22.

- FRANCIS, DANIEL, Capt., b. 1770, m. Mehitable (dau. Capt. Elizur) Goodrich; abt. 1803, built and occup. brick ho. on High St., now res. of C. E. Dow, and d. 1837, ae. 66; was master of brig *Eli-a*, captured by two Fr. privateers, Jan. 16, 1797. She was built in Mass., registered 92 tons, and sailed for W. I. Dec., 1796, with cargo of cattle, corn, salt beef etc., mostly the property of Nath'l Eaton; vessel belonged to two N. Y. mchts. and was valued at \$4,000 in Guadeloupe; cargo valued at \$7,108, and Capt. F's. personal loss was \$825.75. He was master of slp. *Lucy*, plying between Htfd., N. Y. and Phila., 1810-1818; mostly freighted for Elisha Shepard & Sons, Htfd.
- FRANCIS, DAVID, Capt., (prob. son of Timothy and Elizabeth Hanmer), b. 1772; m. and sett. at Charleston, S. C., where he d. 1801; master of schr. *Wilmington Packet*, to southern ports, 1796.
- FRANCIS, JAMES B., (bro. of Albert) was master of slp. *Branch*, in 1823, or earlier; 1833, of schr. *Jane*, built at Glast. that year—and owned by Daniel and Dudley Buck.
- FRANCIS, JOHN, Capt., (son of John and 4th lineal descendant of that name), b. 1767; m. Huldah Bulkeley. It was prob. he who, with Eunice Montague, was owner of the slp. *Ralph*, cap'd by the Fr. in 1800, Capt. Moses Montague being, at the time, her captain. In 1812, Capt. Francis was of the slp. *Dove*, plying from Htfd. to N. Y. and Phila., and mostly in the employ of John Morgan, of Htfd. He d. at age of 68, in 1835.*
- FRANCIS, JOHN N., (Capt.), b. 1817, son of Capt. Daniel above; m. Emeline (dau. Hosea) Harris; was, for many years, master of Brig *Scotland*, plying betw. Htfd. and Porto Rico, and other W. I. Islands; vessel owned by Elisha T. Smith & Co., of Htfd. After making 40 or 50 trips for this firm, she was sold, and lost on the second trip thereafter. Capt. F. then became mstr. of the Brig *Sucanee*, owned by same firm and d. of yellow fever on a trip to Panama and was buried near Carthagena, New Granada, June, 1867; the work of burial being performed by natives. It is related of Capt. F. that once, while off Cape Hatteras, his vessel, the *J. L. Forbes*, collided with another, which held alongside in a trough of the sea, and that he had barely time to leap on board the other vessel, with his wife, when his own vessel went down. The *Sucanee* was prob. the last square-rigged vessel that ever ascended the Conn. River to Htfd.—this must have been 30 yr., or more, ago.
- GOFFE, GIDEON, Sen., ("Capt.") a master-rigger in shipyard; d. 1849, ae. 88; res. So. Weth., near res. of the late Russell Adams.
- GOFFE, GIDEON, Jr., seaman, lost at sea, 1823, ae. 26, as per tombstone at Ry-H.
- GOODRICH, (besides the G's of Ry-Hill, there was in Weth. proper, a long list of names—also engaged in maritime pursuits), ALLEN, son of Nath'l and wife Mary Wright, d. at Martinico, W. I., 1802, ae. 17—prob. a sailor before the mast.

* Capt. James, William, Stephen and Albert Francis were all sons of Capt. John and wife Huldah; engaged in river and coasting trade only. Some members of this family (among them, Joseph, Timothy and Herman, sons of Robert) eng. in bus. in the Southern States and d. there; as did David, son of Timothy and Pamela (Welles) Francis; but whether any were mariners, we know not.

GOODRICH, ARTHUR, (Capt.), of Rocky Hill.

GOODRICH, BARZILAI, (Capt.), son of Capt. Oliver, and prob. of Stepney; mstr. of Joseph Bulkeley's ship *Huron*, 1804; in 1805, of schr. *Leander*, owned by Jared Spencer and others, of Saybrook, Ct.; in 1806, was owner and mstr. of ship *Brutus*, built that yr. at Weth. (Stepney?) by Hez. Whitmore, all these in the foreign trade; in 1827, he had Abijah Collins' slp. *Martha*; in 1830, the Midd. Schr. *Caret*. He m. a dau. of Dr. Aaron Hosford and res. in home built by the latter, and now used by the Beaumonts. After Dr. H. died, Capt. G. res. in the new house.

GOODRICH, DANIEL, (Capt.), 1804, of schr. *Catharine*, owned by Ezekiel Williams, Jr., and others, in for. trade. Poss. a son of the Daniel mentioned in connection with Capt. Josiah, as son of Daniel and Jerusha. If so, he d. 1825, ae. not far from 50 yrs. Daniel, Sen., d. 1786, ae. 40 yrs.

GOODRICH, ELIZUR, Capt., b. 1730, (son of Hezekiah and Honor Deming), was in the W. I., trade prior to Revolution; he m. Abigail (dau. David) Deming and built the ho. lately occup. by Cath. Bridgen; in 1793, he was mstr. of slp. *Honor*, in Kennebec River, for New Lond. It is said that he contributed lead (sash weights) from his ho. to be cast into bullets for the army at Boston, in 1775. He d. 1785; at which time he was pt. owner of the slp. *Sally* and prob. of others. He was nephew of Col. Elizur Goodrich, of Fr. and Ind. wars notoriety.

GOODRICH, ELI, Capt., mstr. and pt. owner of slp. *Vermont*, 1796; in 1798, of schr. *Debe* (?), Capt. Wm. Griswold, owner.

GOODRICH, ELIZUR, (son of above), lost at sea, ae. 23, sailor.

GOODRICH, EPHRAIM, Capt., (son of William, the Settler), rem. to Ry-H.; a military captain; d. 1739, ae. 74. By 1st wife, Sarah Treat, had son by his 2d wife (Jerusha, wid. of Capt. Thomas Welles and dau. of Capt. James Wright of Weth.), Capt. Ephraim had another son,

GOODRICH, GIDEON, who was a sea-captain and d. 1769, ae. 72; bu. at Ry-H.

GOODRICH, OLIVER, Capt., who d. 1780, ae. 66; who, in turn, had a son,

GOODRICH, OLIVER, Jr., mstr. of slp. *Harmony*, in 1785, voyaging to Santa Cruz, whence he imported rum; he d. 1830, ae. 79.

GOODRICH, EPHRAIM, Capt. of Dividend, had four sons, all sea-captains, viz.: *Stephen, Elizur, Thomas, John*; the latter's wid. living in 1884.

GOODRICH, GEORGE, d. at sea, 1794, ae. 23, bu. at "Launce Veaux," ("L'anse a veaux"—Calf Creek); more than one Weth. sailor was bu. at this obscure village on south side of Island of San Domingo.

GOODRICH, HENRY, (son of Israel and Abigail), "d. on his passage to W. I., and was bu. at sea," 1846, ae. 27.

GOODRICH, ICHABOD, of Stepney (capt.), son of Gurdon and Abigail (*Belden*) Goodrich; b. 1758; his father (Gurdon), son of Ephraim and Jerusha Welles. Ichabod rem. from Weth. to Ry-H.; was mstr. of ship *Chance*, capt. and destroyed by the Fr., 1799. This vessel sailed from N. Lond., 23 Nov., 1799, bd. for Martinique, with a cargo of horses, cattle, beef, pork, etc.; she was owned by Simeon Williams, John Woodhouse, Solomon and Joshua Robbins, and the cargo, valued at \$3,500, the vessel at \$6,500; she was taken as a prize to Point au Pitre, Guadeloupe; she was blt. in Weth. Ichabod had sons Thomas, Jason and William H.¹ He res. in ho. on E. side of Ferry St. (now of E. S. Gaylord), as did his son Capt. Jasper.

GOODRICH, ISAAC, mstr. and pt. owner (with Simeon Williams) of slp. *Two Brothers*, in 1796; also of the *Little Putty*, Wm. Griswold and Israel Williams owners; in 1797, he had Benj. Butler's schr. *Hitty*; in 1803, the slp. *Prudence*, belonging to himself, Wm. Ames and others; 1806, mstr. of Brig *William*, owned by Wm. Webb, Jason Boardman, Jason Robbins, Levi Goodrich and Wm. Williams. This vessel built by Abraham Jagger, of Weth. (Stepney?) in 1807, was in for. trade. If, as is poss., Capt. Isaac was son of David and Sarah (Edwards) Goodrich of Glast., he was b. 1743; his tombstone in Weth. Bu. Gd. dates his death, Sept. 28, 1813, ae. 62, with title of "Mr.;" prob. same as this Capt. Dr. Griswold thinks he was bro. of Capt. Ichabod; he kept store E. of Pomeroy ho.; later in one occup. previously by Justus Bulkeley.

GOODRICH, JAMES W., mstr. of schr. *George*, owned by Wait, Stephen and Ger-shom Bulkeley and others, 1840.—*Registration Rec*

GOODRICH, JASON, (Capt.), Stepney, mstr., 1839, of Schr. *Exchange*, owned by Alex'r Hollister and Abijah Collins; but is reg. as from Htfd.; according to Dr. Griswold he and Thomas were bros.; and both sons of Capt. Ichabod; in his later years he had the ferry. His dau. m. Edw'd F. Robbins, of Ry-H., now of Oak Park, Ill.; and a gd-dau. of Lt. Fred Robbins (she now dec'd), had a bro. Thomas lost at sea. abt. 1827 or '28, in the first voyage of staunch new Bg. *John Marshall*, John Lewis, mstr. a packet of the N. Y. and Liverpool line. His wid. (Belinda Webb), m. his bro. Capt. Jason Goodrich.

GOODRICH, JASON LEWIS, Capt., (son of Capt. Jason), d. Ry-Hill, 1843, ae. 26 yrs. Dr. Griswold thinks that both Jason and Thomas res. at one time in E. Htfd.; also, that J. L. was a seaman, but not a sea-captain, but his gravestone gives him the title "Capt."

GOODRICH, JASPER, Capt., of Ry-H.; bu. at St. Croix (?), W. I., 1871, ae. 81; son of Ichabod above. Capt. Jasper Goodrich, well known here up to about 1865, after seafaring for many years, established himself in St. Croix, as a commission merchant and spent the larger part of his time there. Through him Shipman's Hotel got its famous brand of "double can" rum, highly valued by the expert tasters who visited that hostelry from Hartford and elsewhere. Some of the good folks who did not "keep

¹In MSS. note to the printed statement, Judge Adams says, "Dr. Griswold says that Thomas and Jason were sons of Capt. Ichabod."

hotel" also got samples from the same source. The reputation of the consignor was assurance of the genuineness of the article. There was also a Capt. *Jasper, Jr.*, but not a mariner.

GOODRICH, JESSE, Capt., built and occup. ho. of late Palmer Southworth, Esq., whether he was a sea-capt. is a little uncertain; was an active mer. and father-in-law of Henry Ferre, who succeeded him as a storekeeper. He. d. 1850, ae. 79; was abt. 1820, associated with Sol. Porter, Jr., of Hlfd., in ownership of several vessels, among which was the brig *Roland*; sometimes Elisha Shepard and James Blinn were pt. owners with him.

GOODRICH, ISRAEL, d. and bu. at Martinique, W. I., ae. 29; left wid. Abigail, who d. 1860. Said to have been a Gov't pensioner, if so, War of 1812.

GOODRICH, JOHN, was with Samuel Churchill, owner of slp. *Juno*, 1803—prob. of Weth.

GOODRICH, JOSEPH, Capt. of Ry-Hill.

GOODRICH, LUTHER. (Capt.), son of Roger, and father of Chester S., was pt. owner, with others, of Ry-H., of schr. *Peggy*, 1804; met his death, 1806 or 1808, ae. 37, by the kick of a horse. He m. 1797, Harriet Deming; they had a son Lemuel, who emigr. from Weth. to Little Rock, Ark., when that country was new and amassed a fortune.

GOODRICH, LUTHER, master of sloop *Jane*, 1806 or '08, coasting trader out of Conn. River, and 1815, the Sloop *Almira*, in same trade. He was from E. Haddam; m. Sally (dau. Thos.) Danforth, of Ry-H. He d. 12 Nov., 1832, ae. 56; she d. 5 Jan., 1861, ae. 81; res. in the old John Ames ho., burned some yrs. ago. There was another Luther Goodrich, who m. abt. same yr.—showing how difficult it is sometimes to avoid errors, owing to similarity of name. A story told of Capt. Luther Goodrich, was that he once took a cargo out of New York for St. Croix; and returning, after a time, without an exchange of cargo, reported to his owners that the island had sunk; he had "sailed all over it, but couldn't find it!" Other navigators, however, struck it in its old place.

GOODRICH, LEVI, (Capt.) mstr., 1806, of sh'p *Columbian*, 207 tons, then loading at Weth. for Charlotte, S. C., he d. 1820, ae. 45; res. in ho. later occup. by his son Levi, who d. 1876, ae. 76—was, in youth, a sailor.

GOODRICH, OLIVER, Jr., (Capt.), m. Sarah Warner, 1771; also m. a second time, had children by both wives; he had, about the time the Fr. were troubling Am. Commerce, some ventures in which Dr. Hosford had some interest; they met with losses, and had claims against the Gov't, under the Fr. Spoliation Act. The interest of H's. heirs in this was sold out to other parties some 40 yrs. later and something realized. After Dr. H's. death, his ho. and that of Capt. G. were sold out by Gov't at \$500 each; the Griswold place was bo't in to be returned to the Capt.; prob. the H. place fared similarly, as later Capt. Barzillai Goodrich, who had m. a dau. of Capt. H., resided in old ho. on the Hosford place.

GOODRICH, WILLIAM, 1803, pt. owner with Jacob and Israel Williams and Ebenezer Bulkeley, of slp. *Nancy*; was prob. of Ry-H.; in 1800, leased from the Selectmen of Weth., a portion of the shipyard at Ry-H., to bld. vessels in.

GOODRICH, WILLIAM, Jr., who, in 1826, was pt. owner of schr. *Carroll*, was also of Ry-H.

GRIMES. This family (name orig. prob. was *Grifmes*, *Gravme*, or *Gotha*) descended from Joseph, who held ld. at Weth., in 1694, and since that date has been prominently identified with the ownership of that portion of old Stepney water-front which comprised the Ship-yard Reservation, etc. See Rocky-Hill Chapter, pp. 888-897.) It is not strange, therefore, that we find many men of the name, during successive generations, engaged in seafaring life and shipping interests, and it has been well said that the seas and islands of the West Indies became almost a family burying-place to the Grimes of Wethersfield.

GRIMES, ALEXANDER, b. abt. 1745.

GRIMES, HENRY, (son of Alex'r), d. at Antigua, 1796, æ. 19 yrs.

GRIMES, HEZEKIAH, (son of Alex'r), d. 1823, æ. 58 yrs.—a River pilot.

GRIMES, NATHAN, (son of Alex'r), d. at Launce Vaux, San Domingo, 1796, æ. 22 yrs.

GRIMES, RICHARD, Capt., (son of Alex'r), voyaged extensively to the West Indies; his latest voyage being as mstr. of the brig. *Marshall*. He dealt largely in the transportation of horses to those islands; and became quite wealthy in this trade, but finally rem. to Texas, where he died, æ. 68.

GRIMES, SAMUEL, (son of Alexander), d. at Pointe-au-Pitre, 1794, æ. 17.

GRIMES, WILLIAM, (Capt.), was lost at sea, both vessel and crew, while in temporary command of brig *Roland*, of Hartford, Sept., 1819, æ. 37, leaving wid. Mary (dau. Abishai) Jagger, to whom he was m. 1809.

GRISWOLD, a family which has furnished many mariners, but more soldiers.

GRISWOLD, CALEB, Sen., (Capt.), son of Michael, Jr., and gd-son of Michael, the Settler, who abt. 1646, occup. the ho. near the site of that occup. by heirs of J. H. Hurlburt, in Garden St. (a lineal desc'd't of Michael), son of Michael, Jr., and Elizabeth (dau. of Wm.) Burnham. He d. 1754 ae. 48. He m. Abigail Bunce (of High St. family of that name), and left a large family. There was another Capt. CALEB, who m. Lucy Francis, 1787, and was father of a *third* Capt. Caleb, who res. in Bezaleel Latimer's (late Martin Griswold's) ho. and rem. to Hartford, where he d.

GRISWOLD, ELISHA, (Capt.), bro. of above Caleb; mariner; m. Abigail (dau. Leonard) Dix.

GRISWOLD, FRANCIS, (Capt.), son of 2d Capt. Caleb; was an ocean navigator, who ranked very high in his calling; he d. 1851, ae. 56.

GRISWOLD, HARRY M., (Capt.), son of Moses, by first wife; d. at Honolulu, S. I., 1847, ae. 38; one of the most noted whaling captains who sailed from New Bedford, and a typical sailor; he m. ——— Robbins, and they res. in "Egypt." Weth. He was once drawn under a whale, that had been harpooned and was submerged long enough to have drowned any man, but was rescued and recovered. When at home, he res. with his aunt, Miss Polly Robinson, in the Emerson ho. She was broken-hearted at his loss.

GRISWOLD, JACOB, "Mr." lost at sea, May, 1792. ae. 34; was of Rocky-II.; may have been son of Jacob, son of Maj. Josiah—but Jacob and Justus were frequent names in this family.

GRISWOLD, JOSIAH, (Capt.), d. 1870, ae. 80; in W. I. and European trade; a noted athlete and thrashed many a man bigger than himself; was taken prisoner by a Br. privateer in War of 1812, and carried to Eng. though not without having seriously damaged some of his captors.

GRISWOLD, JONATHAN, Capt. of slp. *Polly*, 1795, owned by himself, and Caleb Griswold. Bezaleel Latimer and Henry Champion, 2d; in 1816, mstr. of slp. *Siren*, owned by himself, Justus Riley and others; she was built at Weth. same yr. He m. (1) Huldah Francis, 1790; m. (2) Millicent Francis, 1799; leaving ch. by both wives.

GRISWOLD, JOSIAH, Capt., mstr. of slp. *Sophia*, 1797; (poss. son of Daniel and Jerusha (Gibbs) Griswold; if so, he d. 1802, ae. abt. 32; a gd-son of Maj. Josiah Griswold.

GRISWOLD, JAMES, Capt. slp. *Eliza*, 1807, Caleb Griswold, 2d, and himself owners. If, as is prob., they were bros.—they were sons of William and Elizabeth (McCloud) Griswold, and James was b. 1769, and d. 1849, ae. 80; his wife was Lucy Buck.

GRISWOLD, JUSTUS, Capt., (prob. son of Maj. Josiah, who res. in fine old ho. demolished many years ago, a little W. of the present creamery in Griswoldville).

GRISWOLD, SIMEON, was first officer (mate) of brig *Two Brothers*, 1767-70, in W. I. trade (log-book in poss. of S. W. Adams) late; he was b. 1742, (prob.) and (prob.) son of Capt. Elisha, who m. Abigail (dau. Leonard) Dix.

GRISWOLD, SIMEON, Capt., was capt. by Fr. armed cruiser and the inhuman treatment he rec'd from them, it is said, rendered him morose and sour-tempered for remainder of his life; he d. 1858, ae. 86; he had a son Henry, a sailor, who d. 1854, ae. 28, of small pox.

GRISWOLD, TIMOTHY, Capt., an active navigator; in 1819, mstr. of schr. *Milo*, owned by himself and Nathan Morgan; 1821, had slp. *Siren*, owned by himself, Justus Riley, Jesse and Josiah Savage; also schr. *Science*, belonging to himself and Timo. and Rich. Green; in 1824, had the *Milo* again, in foreign trade; in 1826, had the schr. *McDonough*, in for. trade, and owned by Wm. Montague and Eliphalet and Heman Averill; in 1827, mstr. and owner of schr. *Antelope*. Prob. son of Jonathan and Huldah (Francis) Griswold; he was b. 1795; m. Laura Standish, and d. 1837.

GRISWOLD, WILLIAM, Capt., of Stepney, ran away to sea when a boy (he had been apprenticed to the carpenter's trade), got to London, Eng., there learned the sail-maker's trade, and later, did business for himself in that line; in 1762, m. a Mary Tapley, or Tappan, said to have been a lady of means; is said to have returned to Ry-Hill on his own vessel, which he brought up the Sound and the Conn. River, himself, having on board his wife, and some slaves. Another report is that, at one time before he returned, he was in command of a Br. East Indiaman, and that the lady who became his wife, was a passenger on board. He was also engaged in ship building and merchandise at Rocky Hill, and, perhaps also at the Cove; was associated in mercantile co-partnership with Cpts. Barnabas Deane, John Wright and Justus Riley, which may account for his not taking command of the *Minerva*, when she was sent to sea by the State. He bo't and res. in large red ho., which afterwards (remodeled) became Green's Hotel at Rocky Hill, where he engaged in sail-making, and his desc'dts still have his stamp "William Griswold—Sail-Maker, London;" and later in ship-bldg. at The Landing. His dau. Charlotte, m. 1791, Capt. Wm. Webb; another dau. m. Elijah (father of Esq. Williams) Robbins. Capt. Griswold d. 1806, ae. 72 or 75; his son Benj. d. Dec., 1793, on passage from W. I., ae. 24.

HARRIS, WILLIAM, Jr., mstr. 1819, of Capt. Justus Riley's brig *Merchant*.

HANMER, JOHN, Capt., about the Revol. period, first of name in Weth.; d. 1799, ae. 68; perhaps Francis, Sr., who d. 1790, ae. 82, was his father.

HANMER, FRANCIS, Jr., (prob. gd-son of above), mstr. slp. *Allen*, 1803.

HANMER, SIMEON, mstr. and pt. owner of schr. *Four Friends*, 1807.

HATCH, DANIEL, Capt., (son of Zephaniah?), d. 1808, ae. 28; mstr. of slp. *Dove*, owned by Justus Riley, and built in 1784.

HATCH, LEVI, Capt., mstr. slp. *Mary*, 1824; occup. ho. site of Geo. Harris' present res.

HAVENS, SYLVESTER, THOMAS, HENRY, WILLIAM and **HIRAM**, shipbuilders. Hiram d. at Htfd., ae. 84; worked at Weth., Cromwell, New York City and in different places on Conn. River, where steamboats were built; also, at Prescott, Canada. His older bro. Thomas and perhaps William, also, and himself had contract for bldg. five steamboats launched in as many different places, between Springfield and Barnet, Va., all light draught boats (it is believed) and the first of the kind on the Conn. River above Htfd. Hiram also laid the keel of the first steamboat in Prescott, which also plied to Montreal. These men, all master mechanics, were sons of Thomas Havens, who m. Lucinda (dau. of Benjamin and Patience *Blinn*) Adams. He is supposed to have come from Long Island, with his father Thomas. A sixth brother *Uzziel*, was a sailor and m. Rachel (dau. Abraham) Jagger, a shipbuilder of Ry-H. and d. at Man-tanzas, Cuba, 1825, ae. 35, leaving three sons, one of whom, William Grimes Havens, was a sailor and finally settled at Hawaii, where he m. a native woman, by whom he had a family.

HOLLISTER. In 1642, Lieut. John Hollister came to Weth., prob. from Dorchester, Mass., taking the John Reynolds' homestead, on E. side of High St. His desc'dts have been so numerous and so prominent in military affairs, especially in Colonial times, that it is presumable that some of them may have been navigators. Many of them, at least on the Glast. side of the River, have been ship-builders and sea-captains. But in present ancient town-ship only two—sons of Parismus H., now dec'd—have been seafarers: viz.:

HOLLISTER, JASPER, a whaler and before the mast, d. about a generation ago, of consumption. Had a brother.

HOLLISTER, WALLACE, now a well-to-do resident in Australia. These boys fled from their father's home some 35 yrs. ago, and the latter has never revisited it.

HOLLISTER, ROSWELL, (Capt.).

HORSFORD, DR. ALLEN, a noted physician at Ry-H., part owner of slp. *Laura*, 1796, and of slp. *Hope*, 1797; he d. 1804, ae. 57.

HURLBURT. The desc'dts. of Thomas, the Settler, of 1637, a noted Ind. fighter, have furnished some men distinguished in military and seafaring annals.

HURLBURT, JOHN, Capt., (son of William, Jr., and wife Catherine), b. 1770, in the old ho. (long since demolished) on W. side Bell Lane, and just S. of the family home of Moses Morris; he was quite a scientific navigator, if we may judge from a series of nautical problems entered by him in a blank book which he bo't in London, in 1800. In Nov., 1796, he sailed, as first mate of the ship *Neptune*,¹ Daniel Greene, Mstr., from New York, on a cruise around the world (said to have been the *first* time in which the globe was circumnavigated by an *American* vessel). They went first to the Falkland Isles for seal, touching at many points on the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, including the Sandwich Islds., then a barbarous country. Two log-books kept by him and ending with the stay of the ship at Wampoa,

China, in Dec., 1798, are still extant. While in China he bo't large quantities of silks and Chinaware, among the latter, a dinner set of 171 pieces, of "Synshong," at a cost of \$75. This was prob. a three years' cruise.

In 1803, he mstr. of schr. *Weasel*, plying betw. N. Y. and W. I.; he d. in N. Y., from smallpox, in 1808, æt. 38; he m. a dau. (prob.) of Capt. Ashbel Wright; and left a dau. Ann. who m. Henry (son of Gen. Nath'l) Terry. They were the parents of the well known authoress, Rose Terry Cooke, the late wife of Mr. Rollin H. Cooke, of Jittsfield, Mass. Capt. Hurlburt built and occup. the ho. lately owned and occup. by Levi Goodwin. The following is a copy of his "clearance papers," for the ship *Neptune*, in 1800.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

SUFFER the Ship *Neptune* of New Haven, *John Hurlburt* master, or commander, of the burthen of *Three hundred fifty-two & 87,95* tons, or thereabouts, mounted with *six* guns, navigated with *Twenty-one* men—

———To PASS with her Company, Passengers, Goods and Merchandise, without any hinderance, seizure or molestation; the said *Ship* appearing, by good testimony, to belong to one or more of the Citizens of the United States, and to him or them only.

GIVEN, under my Hand and the Seal of the United States of
(U. S. Seal) America, the *Sixth* day of *January*, in the year of our
Timothy Pickering, Lord, one thous-and *Eight* hundred.
Secretary of State.

John Adams,
By the President.

State of }
& } New York
District of }

To all Persons whom }
these may concern } Countersigned by
Joshua Sands, Collector.

HURLBURT, JAMES, (bro. of Capt. John above), b. 1773. was a seaman; ² 1807, pt. owner, with Bezaleel Latimer, of slp. *Mary*, built by Sam. Dimock, but poss. Samuel Buck was mstr.; he d. 1852, æt. 79; was fthr. of the late James Harvey Hurlburt; and occup. the old H. ho. mentioned in connection with Capt. John: perhaps he was the "J. Hurlburt," of the "Schr. *Sea-flower*, arrived, 16 day, frm. Point Petre, Guadalupe."—Aug. 6. 1793.—*Courant*. In 1813, he was captured by the British, and paroled for an exchange; and was given this Certificate of Parole:

PAROLE

By Authority of the Commissioners } for conducting His
Majesty's } Transport Service, for taking } leave of Sick
and Wounded Sea } men, and for the leave and Cust } ody
of Prisoners of War.

THESE are to certify, That *James Hurlburt* as described on the back hereof, late *Seaman of an American Brig* has been released from *Custody* and permitted to

return to *New York* for the purpose of effecting his Exchange, by procuring the release of a British Prisoner of War, of Equal Rank, upon his having engaged that he will surrender himself at such Place, and at such Time, as the said Commissioners or their Agent for the time being may require; and that he will not serve against the United Kingdom of *Great Britain and Ireland*, or any of the Dominions thereunto belonging, or against any Powers in Alliance with *Great Britain*, until he shall have been regularly exchanged.

AND WHEREAS the said *James Hurlburt* is permitted to proceed direct, and without Delay from *Barbadoes* to *New York*, calling at *St. Vincent*, all and singular His Majesty's Officers, Civil and Military, are hereby desired and required to suffer him to pass accordingly, without any Hindrance or Molestation whatever, provided he leave this Colony within *Six* days from the Date hereof; but if he should deviate from the Route hereby pointed out, or be found in this Colony after the time allowed to him, he will be liable to immediate Apprehension and Imprisonment.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at *Barbadoes* this *twenty-seventh* Day of *May*, 1813.

John Barker Lt. Col. & Agent for
Prisoners of War (Seal)

Gratis.

On the back of this Parole is the following description of *James Hurlburt*.

Name, *James Hurbet*; Rank, *Seaman*; Age, *20* years; Stature *5* feet *5* inches; Person, *Thin*; Visage, *Long*; Complexion, *Fair*; Hair, *Brown*; Eyes, *Blue*; Marks or Wounds, &c. ———.

This description, curiously enough, does not seem to tally exactly with that contained in the "Protection Papers" issued to him in Apl., 1796. under the signature of Thos. Seymour, Mayor of the City of Hartford, Conn., and the seal of the State of Conn., April 21, 1796. which describes him as "five feet, two and $\frac{1}{8}$ inches in stature; blackish hair, dark brown eyes, darkish complexion & that he is & ever has been a citizen of Weth. and of the U. S."

HURLBURT, NATHANIEL, in 1808, mstr. of brig *Neptunc*, Normand Knox, of Htfd., owner; registered for foreign trade; prob. N. H. was from Weth.

HURLBURT, WILLIAM, 2d, in 1847, pt. owner of slp. *Citizen*, with Elizur Hurlburt.

JAGGER, ABRAHAM, of Stepney built the slp. *Jack*, in 1804, and brig *William*, 1807; prob. others; he also built houses; the name on the old recs. is "Gager," which is prob. same as the German "Jaeger," which means "hunter." Jeremiah, the Settler, res. 1640, on E. side of road extending S. E. from lower end of Broad St.

KILBOURN, THOMAS, the Settler, the first white man who occup. the lot lately Col. Chester's, now Comstock, Ferre & Co., on W. side Broad St., had but few sea-going desc'ts in Weth. The most prominent of the name in this line were found in the Htfd. and E. Htfd. branches.

KILBOURN, JOSHUA, Capt.. (son of George), b. Weth., 1770; m. Lucy Holt and rem. to New London; was mstr. (among others) of the ship *Yankee*; d. N. Orleans, 1811.

KILBOURN, GEORGE, (bro. of above), also a sailor.

- KILBOURN, HEZEKIAH, Jr., (son of Hez. of same name, whose tavern was a little N. of Meeting House), b. 1725, became a sailor; res. for a time in Bermuda and d. at sea, unmarried, in 1753.
- KNOWLES, Capt. JAMES; d. 1765; prob. of E. Haddam; res. N. side of road to River.
- LARKIN, SAMUEL, Capt., d. at Mobile, 1837, ae. 46, (son of Isaac and Abigail), went early, as mate, with Capt. James Blinn; he was a bro. of the late Mrs Levi Warner, and much respected.
- LOVELAND, GEORGE, Capt., (son of John) m. Hannah (dau. of Curtis) Welles, 1822; d. young; left several ch. still living; the late John L. was his half bro.
- LOVELAND, JOHN, (Capt.) mstr. schr. *Dolphin*, 1805, owned in Midd. and in for. trade; he may have res. in Midd. and poss. was the John L. Jr., whose wife, Rebecca, d. 1801, ae. 27. (See *Weth. Bu.-Gd.*) John, Sen., was in Glast.; his wid. Comfort, m. Nath'l Coleman of Weth. and d. there 1786, ae. 71.
- MOORCOCK, "Mr." NICHOLAS, a warehouse owner at the Cove, 1694; also a sea captain; came from Boston, prob. as a youth, and remained at Weth. up to 1695; prob. a trader to Virginia.
- MARSH, JOHN, Capt., built slp. *Liberty*, 1804; res. Stepney; prob. the Capt. John who was running the slp. *Allen*, in 1807, and who d. Ry-H., in 1836, ae. 83.
- MCCOMBE, ANDREW, "of Weth." mstr. of slp. *Polly*, 1795.
- MILLS, DAVID A., mstr. schr. *Lydia*, 1860; later of steamboat betw. Htfd. and N. Y.
- MITCHELL, the Weth. family desc'd. from James, a native of Scotland, who d. 1771, ae. 71; his son (and a brother of Chief Justice Mitchell) Capt. JAMES, Sen., was mstr. of schr. *Fox*, in 1775, then carrying cattle, pork, etc., to the W. I. for Joseph Webb. His cargo was 20 head of cattle and 80 bbls. of pork. He died 1779, ae. 55.
- MITCHELL, JAMES, JR., (Capt.), son of above; was drowned 1801, on return passage from W. I., ae. 27; as also was his bro. STEPHEN, at same time, ae. 20.
- MITCHELL, WILLIAM, (son of Capt. James, Sen.) d. in W. I. 1800, ae. 21 yrs.
- MONTAGUE, desc. of Richard, from Boston, 1647; rem. to and a founder of Hadley, Mass., 1659. His gd-son Richard came to Weth., 1718, and occup. Jona Blinn's pl. on So. Hill.
- MONTAGUE, MOSES, (Capt.), b. 1763, (son of Richard, Jr., b. 17 March, 1730, and Olive (dau. Capt. Gershom Nott), m. Eunice Harris; engaged in W. I. or European trade; in 1800, was mstr. of slp. *Ralph*, of which his wife and John Francis were owners; Capt. M's interest in cargo, \$1,589. The slp. was captured; made a prize, and Capt. M. was taken to France, a prisoner; the shippers (of Htfd.) claimed a loss of \$18,000; he d. 1804, ae. 41.

MONTAGUE, GURDON HARRIS, (Capt., son of Capt. Moses) b. 1789; m. Martha (dau. Josiah and Cynthia Wood) Robbins; commanded U. S. privateer *Joel Barlow*, in War of 1812, and is said (*M. Geneal.*) to have "captured a valuable prize;" was living in New Haven, 1847; thence went with the G. H. Montague Mining Co. to California on the schr. *G. H. Montague*, accompanied by his sons, Richard and Francis.

MONTAGUE, WILLIAM, (son of Capt. Moses) m. Eliott (dau of Nath'l and Martha Hammer) Stillman; rem. to Htfd.; owned the "Montague wharves" there and had large lumber business.

MORRIS, RALPH, Capt., (bro. of late Moses and Davis) d. at sea.

NEFF, JOSEPH, pt. owner of slp. *Enterprise*, 1810; prob. of Ry-H. Neff is a recent name in Weth. Mr. Neff, of Stepney was a spar-maker and the father of William, who rem. to Wilmington, N. C., where he was a ship chandler.

NOTT, GERSHOM, (Capt.), one of Weth. most respected citizens; (son of John, Jr., and gd-son of John, the Settler) b. 1693; in 1735, or thereabouts, was mstr. of a brig to W. I., a fact which led to an important law-suit in which James Wells and others of E. Haddam and Saybrook sought to recover £2,000 damages from him on account of alleged non-fulfillment of contract relative to disposal of their vessel and cargo in W. I.; Nott won the suit; he d. 1772; appears to have been wealthy for the times; was father-in-law to Joseph Webb, Sen., who was wealthy; the Shepardson ho. and pl. was built for and occupied by him and is probably one of the oldest and largest of Weth. large buildings.

NOTT, WILLIAM, Capt. of slp. *Two Brothers*, 1795; she belonged to John Nott, Roger Riley, Benjamin Butler, Jason Boardman, all of Weth.

NOTT, JOHN, above referred to, was prob. the Capt. of that name who commanded a vessel in L. I. Sound in 1777 (see *Revolutionary Chapter*) he may have been a bro. or the father of William.

The Notts of Ry-Hill are desc. from John, the Settler at Weth., about 1636, who res. on the present Bap. Ch. corner.

PETTES, JAMES, had the slp. *Farmer* in 1875, Samuel Pettes, also of Weth., being a part owner; also of slp. *Sarah* same yr.; the other part owners were Eleazer and David K. Porter of Htfd. Perhaps Samuel was bro. of James; an ancient name in Stamford and vicinity.

PELTON, SAMUEL, was running, in 1804, the slp. *Jack*, in the coast trade, and owned by John Williams, 2d.

POMEROY, OLIVER, JR., Capt., of Ry-Hill; active mcht.; d. 1776, ae. 46.

PRICE, JOHN, *Stepney*. Capt., mstr of *Sea Flower*, to N. Carolina, as early as 1772; whether then living at Ry-H. not known.

PRICE, JONATHAN, Capt., mstr. of slp. *Eliza*, in W. I. trade, 1804; Oct. 4, 1804. "For Sale: The slp. *Eliza*, 77 tons burthen. Apply to Capt. Roswell Hol-

lister at Glastonbury or Capt. Jonathan Price at Ry-Hill. Wethersfield, Oct. 4, 1804." *From American Mercury*, 1804.

PRICE, RICHARD, prob. of Ry-H., from 1799 to 1809, appears as mstr. of slps. *Charlotte*, *Ursula* and *Prudence*, and schr. *Ann*, mostly in for. trade; he sailed mostly for Oliver and Barzillai Goodrich, Hosea Bulkely, and other Ry-H. owners.

PRICE, JACOB, remembered by Mr. Chas. Williams of Ry-Hill as of that place; mate of a Htfd. brig, as well as of other vessels; he lived in ho. now occup. by John Burkett, at Ry-H., since destroyed by fire.

RHODES, JOSIAH, Capt., res. in small old frame ho., which stood opp. Silas Robbins store; was in W. I. trade and was lost at sea; wife was Sarah Wright; had four sons, three of whom followed the sea, viz.:

RHODES, WILLIAM, Capt., rem. to New Haven, where he m.; was the father of Lt. Underhill Rhodes, U. S. Rev. Service, who so distinguished himself in the rescue of passengers of a shipwrecked stmr. off Gay's Head.

"RHODES, HENRY W. This gentleman's account, as originally given in Judge Adams' Sketches, was corrected in a subsequent number of the *Farmer*, thus—by one who signed her name "Mary A. Williams, *not dead*." Was mate of one of the largest ships out of Boston, in the East India trade. He m. for his 1st wife, a Spanish lady. He lived with her in Valparaiso, S. A., until two children were born to them. He then deserted her, came to Weth., and passed himself off as a single man and married Mary A. Williams, a sister of the late Thomas W. Williams. She learned he was a married man and left him; he put a weed on his hat and said she was dead; then he went to Eng. and married there the dau. of an innkeeper, and brought her to Weth.; afterwards, they lived in New Haven. In the Civil War, he enlisted and served long enough to get his bounty money and then left the country."

RHODES, ROYAL, a sailor and prob. an officer in the mercantile marine; mate of the ship *Waverly*, of Boston and lost at sea; unmarried.

RHODES, THEODORE S., d. at sea April, 1800.—See gravestone in Weth. Bur-d.

RILEY, one of the most noted of Weth. sea-faring families. Most of the American stock of mariners of this name have been desc. of John, the Settler, 1645, who bought James Boosey's homestead (formerly that of Robert Coe, 1635) W. side Broad St. on cor. once occup. by the late Thos. G. Adams. This property, John Riley exch. 1669 for the Thos. Couch pl. on S. E. side Broad St., where he res. until his death, about 1674.

RILEY, ACKLEY, with Levi Edwards owned slp. *Sally*, 1796.

RILEY, ASAHEL, Capt., 2d; d. and was bu. at Ry-H., 1797, ae. 57; his wife Mabel (dau. Dea. Ebenezer) Goodrich.

RILEY, ALLEN, of Ry-H., mstr. of slp. *Sally*, 1798; res. in ho. on site of that now occup. by Mrs. Hoskins; in his later years was a river pilot.

RILEY, ASHBEL, Capt., (prob. bro. of Justus) d. 1794, ae. 60; he commanded the privateer brig *Ranger*, 14 guns and 20 men, in 1776; and the *Snake*, 4 guns and 20 men, 1780. He was prob. the "Capt. Riley of Weth." of whom account is given in the *Hfd. Courant* of 26 Aug., 1793. It relates that he arrived on 2nd Aug. at Charleston, S. C., with brig *Nancy*, having left Port au Prince, July 18, for New York. His crew were a mate, 5 men and a cabin boy. July 19 he was boarded by men from two Br. privateers and made a prize. Two prize-mstrs. were put in charge, with one white and one black man and four American prisoners taken a few days before; and four of the *N's* crew were taken off and the vessel ordered to proceed to New Providence. A few days later, Capt. R., with the help of the rest of his crew, seized the arms, re-captured the *N.* and took her into Charleston. This vessel was lost at Eaton's Neck, L. I., March, 1795, Capt. John Webb being then master—she had cargo of rum, sugar and molasses from Jamaica, *Conn. Courant*, 9 Dec., 1793.

RILEY, J——, (Capt.), commanded slp. *Hero*, in 1778, of 6 guns and 40 men; prob. Justus Riley, then 38 yrs. old; altho' it may have been Capt. Jacob, or some other of the name whose Christain name began with J.

RILEY, JUSTUS, was also a ship owner; in 1780, he, with Capts. Barnabas Deane, John Wright and Wm. Griswold were eng. in a general export trade and in ship building. On their application, the Gen. Assembly, by its Committee of Safety, authorized them to make a shipment of 5,000 pounds of sugar, 100 of coffee and 100 gals. of rum to New Jersey, overland "notwithstanding the embargo, to be exch. for iron needed in shipbuilding. Justus Riley owned many vessels, most of which were built in Weth. and Ry-H. Also the brig *Eliza* and schr. *Return*, taken in 1799, were run by Captains bearing the Riley name—prob. Weth. men; yet the only list of claimants by French Spoiliations in Judge Adams' hands, failed to show their Christian names. One of the vessels built and owned by Capt. Justus Riley was the brig *Martha*, named after his dau. Mrs. Chester Bulkeley. This vessel was launched from the River bank on the E. side, near the store by the now abandoned ferry; that store being one of several warehouses owned by him, and was prob. identical with the brig *Patty*, Capt. Josiah Homestead, mstr., which was captured, Sept. 2, 1796, by the Fr. cruiser *Iris*, taken to Guadalupe, libeled, confiscated and sold. The brig *Merchant* (?), built for him (or his son Roswell) some yrs. later, by Sylvester Havens, was launched at the Cove; also pt. owner, 1796, of slp. *Geneva*; 1804, schr. *Mars*; brig *Betsy*, 1809; brig *Edward*, 1810; slp. *Siren* and schr. *Milo*, 1816; sole owner of slp. *Dove*, 1784; slp. *Susan* & *Nancy*, schr. *Triton*, brig *Peggy*, slp. *Phoenix*, 1804; brig *Perseverance*, 1806; brig *Martha*, 1808. Capt. Riley's wife was prob. sister of Daniel Buck. Stephen Riley, David Riley, John Warner, John Morton, and Benj. Morton, all of W-d., agree Jan. 11, 1732/3, to "completely effect, furnish and perfect all ye work which pertains to ye carpenter to perform according to custom on board ye slp. *Stepncy*." He was also pt. owner of brig *Commerce*, built abt. 1813, and launched at Keeny's Cove, and Capt. Humphry Woodhouse, Sen., and Sylvester Havens were its builders. It ran first to New Orleans; it was this brig, which was wrecked on the coast of Africa and the crew captured and enslaved.—See *Riley's Narrative* and *Robbins' Journal*. Capt. Riley d. 1824, ae. 84; his 1st wife Martha, d. 1772, ae. 35; his 2d, Mabel (Buck?), d. 1843, ae. 95; his son Ezekiel, a sailor, d. at St. Croix, 1800.

ae. 28; whether his son *Roswell*, who d. 1824, or *Justin*, who d. 1831, were sailors, is unknown. The former owned considerable shipping, notably the brig *Gov. Griswold*, in 1824.

RILEY, EBENEZER, Capt., of Berlin, prob. went from Weth., as his wife was born there.

RILEY, JACOB, Capt., whose wife Abigail, d. 1788, ae. 41 yrs.; res. Ry-H.

RILEY, JABEZ, Capt., d. at Ry-H., 1824, ae. 87; wife Hannah. It is related of Capt. Jabez Riley that once, before sailing on a voyage, he buried his money in his orchard, telling no one of it. While at sea, his vessel encountered a severe storm, and expecting every moment to go down, the Captain, bethinking himself of his buried treasure, bottled up a description of the place of its deposit and threw the bottle overboard to take its chance. Fortunately, however, the ship was not lost, and, as soon as he returned home, he dug up his treasure and deposited it in a chartered bank, in preference to *dirt* bank. But, alas for the fallacy of human calculations, the chartered bank failed, the Captain lost his money, and metaphorically, "blasted his eyes," that he was not lost at sea, so that his money might have been saved—and this, though the unfortunate bottle had never been heard from!

RILEY, JAMES,¹ Capt., was the hero of *Riley's Narrative* (see *Riley Geneal.*, Vol. II¹); b. in Midd. (Upper Houses.)

Capt. Riley's father was *Asher*, son of *Nath'l* and Abigail (*Montagues* Riley, of Weth. His mother was Rebecca Sage, and his wife Phoebe (dau. of Hosea) Miller, of present town of Cromwell—(*Statement of Mr. W. Wiltshire Riley of Cromwell, Ct., son of Capt. James*)—who has written an interesting "Sequel" to his father's "Narrative."

RILEY, LEVI, (Capt.), mstr. of a vessel lying at N. Y., 1774, with cargo of onions.

RILEY, RICHARD, Capt., Mstr. (and Belden Boardman, Mate) of a vessel plying betw. New York and Newbern, N. C., and New Providence, W. I., 1794; both men were of Weth.

RILEY, ROGER, Capt., 1798, mstr. of slp. *Polly*, owned by Capt. Wm. Griswold; res. in the Levi Robbins ho.; his dau. being Mr. Robbins' wife; pt. owner slp. *Two Brothers*, 1795. [Dr. Griswold thinks that *Jacob* Riley, not Roger, was Mrs. Robbins' father; but Mr. Chas. William of Ry-H., says that Roger's 2d wife was Ruth, wid. of Roger Bull, whose dau. Eunice Bull, became the 1st wife of his (Mr. W.'s) father.]

ROBBINS, ARCHIBALD, (Stepney), b. 1792, at Rocky-Hill, son of Capt. Jason, was one of Capt. James Riley's crew on the brig *Commerce*, when wrecked on the coast of Africa, in 1815. This brig was owned by Riley & Brown of Hartford, and the Messrs. Savage; she sailed from Midd. and left the mouth of the River, May 6th, 1815; with a crew of twelve, including officers. Capt. Riley, his two mates and cabin boy from Midd. Robbins belonged to Rocky-Hill. They reached New Orleans, June 1, and took on a cargo of flour and tobacco for foreign ports. At Gibraltar, she shipped some

brandy and wine. Her next objective point was the Cape de Verde Islands to fill up her cargo with salt. Desirous of making an expeditious passage, Captain Riley ran down the coast between the Canary Islands and the Continent. Presumably the brig outran the calculations of her officers and not westering enough, at 10 at night, on the 28th of August, she struck on the northern line of Cape Balador, between 26 degrees and 27 degrees north latitude. The crew got safely to land, but were set upon by some of the natives, and one was made prisoner. The rest put to sea in one of the boats, running southwest into the Atlantic in the hope of falling in with some vessel. After standing out four days and exhausting their small stock of water, the horrors of death from thirst determined them to change their course to southeast and after running in three days they made land again near Cape Barbas. Thence they worked their way northward along a rugged coast for three days and then fell into the hands of the native savages. Knowing that considerable sums were paid for the redemption of prisoners that fell into their hands, the Arabs slowly worked these ill-fated men northward toward Morocco. Captain Riley was ransomed after a captivity of about two months. Mr. Robbins was kept a prisoner for nineteen months, finally being taken north to Noon and Tangier. Five others also were ransomed, but another five are supposed to have remained and died in captivity.

Archibald Robbins wrote and published a "*Journal*;" and Capt. Riley published a "*Narrative*" of their experiences in this captivity, which obtained a considerable circulation at the time. Indeed about all that was then known in this country, up to within a few years and up to the present, of the geography of the Atlantic coast and of the great African desert, over an extent of latitude from 32 degrees to 16 degrees north, and of the inhabitants—their habits, customs, modes of life, religions, character, means of existence, etc.—was obtained from the narratives of Captain James Riley and Seaman Archibald Robbins of the Brig *Commerce*. Like experiences, in the same region, of Spaniard and English captives had given the nations of Western Europe a similar knowledge; but beyond this, although the country was within a few days sail of the ports of Spain and Portugal, whence adventurous mariners made long voyages around the Cape to the Indies and across the Atlantic to all the coasts of the new world, the terrors of the barren sands of Sahara and its savage nomads had forbidden the footprints of the most daring explorer except, per force, as a prisoner of the wandering Arab. Civilization could not penetrate where the spirit of desolation reigned supreme; and only accident revealed that desolation to European eyes. Some twenty years ago Captain Mayne Reid put in type a small volume for boys, giving the wanderings and adventures of a supposititious person through the same region. It was a very interesting and readable effort; but the older boys, who had not forgotten the books of Riley and Robbins, could not go through it and fail to see (what Captain Reid did not disclose) that his inspiration, as well as his pictures of life and customs in the sandy sea of North Central Africa, were derived from those older volumes. Proper credit ought to have been given them. This experience of the crew of the *Commerce* was by no means exceptional. Other seamen from here, had similar adventures. One of these and the last survivor of the *Commerce* crew, was Mr. HORACE SAVAGE—the former cabin boy of the brig. He resided in Wethersfield village many years, and died there October 14, 1882, aged 82 years.

Mr. Charles Williams states that, at the time, it was the general opinion that the brig was after a load of slaves. It was said by sailors that she was a long way out of the course she should have sailed, and that her cargo consisted principally of salt beef, potatoes and many casks of fresh water—circumstances which were suspicious. This opinion had, at least, its justification in the fact that a considerable number of vessels sailing from N. Eng. ports at that time, and later, made voyages for slaves—which they sold in the W. I. Islands, often making fortunes in a single voyage. The business was not held to be much more amiss than slave holding, and some very excellent people had an interest in the importation of slaves. As to this single case, this can only be a conjecture; but if there was truth in it, it was by no means uncommon.

This experience and a previous one which Mr. Robbins had had during the War of 1812, did not deter him from following the sea. He became one of the sea-captains of the town. In February, 1813, Mr. Robbins sailed from New York to St. Bartholomew, on a merchant vessel. She was captured by the British frigate *Surprise*; the crew was landed at the latter port and returned in a cartel to New York. Again, when on a voyage from New Haven to St. Bartholomew, the vessel was captured by the British off New London, and sent to Halifax. After two months Mr. Robbins got to St. Bartholomew on a Swedish vessel, and from thence to New York. Taking passage for New London on another vessel, which also fell into the hands of the British, he was sent back to Halifax on the Brig of War *Borer*, and kept a prisoner on Melville Island till the conclusion of peace by the Treaty of Ghent. In 1823, he married Almira Williams, who died in 1835; and in March of the following yr. he m. her sister Elizabeth (both gd.-dau. of Thomas Danforth). In July, of same yr., they left Ry-H., per steamboat for Ohio, and sett. in Solon, where he d. in Dec., 1860; she d. in Clinton, Iowa, Aug., 1883.

It is related of Capt. Robbins, that, in 1823 or '24, he contracted to carry two loads of men to Albany (to help dig the Erie Canal, then in process of construction), and that on one of these trips he took 400 passengers at \$4 per head, including their board. As there were no *tugs* in those days, the length of time to accomplish the voyage was very uncertain; but he had the good luck to land his passengers at A. in 48 hours, and was back at Ry-H. in six days from the time he left there. The second voyage was nearly, but not quite so successful. These diggers went in the spring, but returned in November, when the deep snows and cold prevented the prosecution of the work.

Capt. Robbins' nautical life commenced when he was a boy of 16, by making a voyage on a vessel partly owned by his father. The voyage of the *Commerce* was his sixth.

ROBBINS, DANIEL, Capt., (son of Joshua), d. 1767.

ROBBINS, FREDERICK, Senior, son of Esq. John, of Wethersfield, who m. (1) Martha (dau. of Capt. Jacob) Williams; m. (2) Sarah (dau. Capt. Crafts) Wright. Mr. W. F. J. Boardman thinks she was *wid.*, not dau. of Wright and that her maiden name was Sarah Boardman. Her son John Wright m. Martha (dau. of John) Robbins by his first wife Martha Williams—a novel complication, and may have been the Capt. John Wright. Fred'k Robbins, in 1805, was pt. owner (with 11 others, all res. in Ry-H.) of schr. *Friendship*, in for. trade.

ROBBINS, JASON, his wife Honor, who was bu. at Ry-H., 1800, ae. 32; he m. again; was father of Archibald (above); was with Eli Goodrich, pt. owner of slp. *Elmira*, capt. by Fr., 1788; res. next N. of Shipman's Hotel, which latter was built by Capt. Wait Robbins, and now occup. by Talcott A. Arnold; Capt. Jason rem. in 1829, to the Connecticut Reserve, in company with Timothy Clark (hatter) and Samuel Bull (shoemaker) and their families settled near Ashtubula, Ohio—went by wagons, each family with its own wagon, and pairs of horses—in a heavily loaded wagon drawn by horses; he d. in Weth.—information by Chas. Williams—1881.

ROBBINS, JUSTUS, mstr. and pt. owner of slp. *Julia*, 1821, of which Joseph Bulkeley, of N. Y., was other pt. owner; prob. son of John Robbins, Jr., of Ry-H., and he inherited from his gd-father John R., Sen., a large estate; acc. to Mr. Chas. Williams of Ry-H. Mr. Justus Robbins was eng. in mercantile business with Edmond Bulkeley; he also had a gin distillery where the Ry-H. coal yard now is; d. in N. J., at res. of a dau.; one of his daus. m. Col. Edmond Bulkeley.

ROBBINS, RICHARD, pt. owner (with Moses Dimock and Israel Williams), 1818, of slp. *Nancy*; he was father of Silas W. and of Dea. R. A. Robbins.

ROBBINS, WAIT, Jr., mstr. and (with his father, John, Senr.) pt. owner of schr. *Farmer*, in the fcr. trade, 1804; was b. in that ho. in Weth. at extreme S. end which was destroyed by tornado of 1787; his father rebuilt the ho. on same ground; ho. occup. until recent years by a gt-gd-son, Mr. Griswold.

RYER, HENRY, who res. just below Broad St., and was father of George Ryer, the former Hotel Keeper at Ry-H., had the slp. *Cornet*, in 1826.

SAVAGE, LUTHER, JOSIAH, TIMOTHY, of Midd. origin, and all sailors, were associated with Capt. Justus Riley as ship owners. Of the same stock was Capt. HORACE, who was as a youth cabin boy of the ill-fated Brig *Commerce*; afterwards mstr. of schr. *Spartan*, owned in Htfd., 1825, and of schr. *Albion*, 1826; he res. in Mexico for some yrs, and spoke Spanish fluently.

ROBINSON, ASIBEL, Capt., mstr. of (betw. 1823 and 1832) slps. *Leader*, *Flash*, *Falcon*, and *Pearl*. He is credited to Weth. on the Custom Ho. rec. tho' the name is not accorded to Weth. As Abijah Collins, Henry and Walter Bulkeley, and others of Ry-H., were owners of these vessels, Capt. R. was prob. from some section of township. Dr. Griswold says he res. at Dividend (Ry-H.), and came from So. Glast.; d. abt. 1837, at Georgetown or Charleston, S. C. His son Silas, d. at sea. ae. 14; sons Henry and Isaac still living [1887].

SEYMOUR, ELISIA, ran the slp. *Margaret*, in 1805, and the *Lucy*, in 1806.

SHAILOR, SAMUEL, prob. of Portland, or somewhere "down the River;" mstr. of a shipyard "in Weth." prob. at Stepney, records credit him with bldg. the slp. *Ursula*, 1804, slp. *Amelia*, 1805; brig *Elizabeth*, 1806.

SMITH, JOSEPH, Capt., Ry-H.

SMITH, JOSIAH, Capt., d. 1793, ae. 85.

SMITH, JOHN, in 1810, mstr. brig *Friendship*, built at Weth., 1805, owned by Roland Lee and Truman Griswold of Htfd.

SMITH. In the *American Mercury*, appears a dispatch, dated New York, August 17th, 1808, that several vessels were "captured Saturday last, near Montauk Point, by the U. S. Frigate *Chesapeake*, Commodore Decatur, and ordered to this port." The first on the list of these captured vessels was the brig *Celia*, Smith, of N. Y., "from Weth. for Dominico, captured off Block Island."

England and France were then at war. Bonaparte had, by his Berlin and Milan "decrees," declared a blockade of British ports; and Eng. by its "Orders in Council" had declared a blockade of French ports. Each nation had seized American vessels, assuming that they were bound for ports blockaded by them, respectively. The U. S. in consequence, at President Jefferson's suggestion, had declared an "Embargo" on Am. shipping; and the vessels thus seized, as above had undoubtedly been seized for violation of the Embargo. This Embargo operated very disastrously for New England; and that section was consequently very slow to assist the Federal Government, when the War of 1812 was declared. Out of these seizures made by Eng. and France, of Am. vessels, grew the "Spoliation Claims," which have occupied the attention of Congress for so many years.

STILLMAN, Capt. ALLYN, see *ante*, p 552.

Another view of the difficulties under which American commerce suffered at this time is given by the following extract from a paper of the time. The slp. *Industry* of Hartford, Capt. Giles Savage, mstr., capt. by a French privateer, May 6, 1800, bound for Martinique, laden with sheep, hogs, cheese and hams (taken out by the captors) and horses and cattle, and was sent to Gaudeloupe; but on the 19th of June, was recaptured by the Br. brig *Busy*, carried into harbor of Tortola, in the Virgin Islands, and compelled to pay salvage of one-half value of vessel and cargo. The vessel was valued at \$1,800, and her burthen was 80 tons. total value, as sold £1458, 8s, 6d.

STILLMAN, GEORGE, (Capt.), another bro., sailed to Mediterranean ports; and on one voyage brought from Lisbon some marble slabs, accruing from the great earthquake there, which he used in the construction of a sideboard in his home. He prob. commanded the brig *Martha*, which was launched from the River bank, a little above the present River landing. He was the father of the late Dea. Geo. Stillman. Another bro. was Maj. Joseph Stillman, Jr.

STILLMAN, (Capt.) NATHANIEL, 1st. (son of Geo., the Settler, and Rebecca Smith), a military, not a sea-captain; m. (1) Anna Southmayd, of Midd.; m. (2) Sarah (dau. Capt. Joseph) Allyn; res. E. side High St., on site of Dea. R. A. Robbins' ho.; he d. 1770. ae. 79. *By his first wife*, he had (I) Capt. NATHANIEL, 2d; *by second wife*, he had (II) ALLYN (Capt.), who rem. after the Revol. from the Nancy Tryon place to Enfield; (III) SAMUEL (Capt.), b. 1741; d. 1794; (IV) GEORGE (Maj.-Gen.) rem. to Machias, Me., where he rendered important services during Revol. War; (V) JOSEPH, who res. in ho. next N. of High St. School; lost at sea in Brig *Hope*, 1809; (VI) TIMOTHY (Capt. and Dea.) seaman; commanded, among others, the Brig *Ontario*.

STILLMAN, NATHANIEL, (Capt.), 2d, m. Mehitabel (dau. David) Deming; he d. 1794, ae. 86; *Children*: (I) **SOUTHMAYD**, b. 1754, lost at sea, young; (II) **GILES**, d. at Cape St. Francois, 1796, ae. abt. 30; (III) **SIMEON** (Capt.) a prominent sea-captain, who d. 1847, ae. 83; he m. (1) Rebecca Deming; m. (2) Nancy Deming; res. in Water St., close by River; had *Simcon* and *Jared A.*

STILLMAN, SAMUEL, (No. III of Capt. Nath'l the 1st's family), b. 1741; d. 1794; m. Millicent (dau. Bezaleel) Latimer, and res. in old Goodrich ho. on site of present Bap. Ch.; was one of the most skillful navigators of his day; he accomplished in 1784, the then unparalleled feat of making three voyages to Jamaica, in one yr.—See Caulkin's *Hist. New London*, p. 574.

STILLMAN, OTIS, (Capt.) son of Joseph, gr.-son of the 1st Nath'l) res. in ho. next S. of High St. School Ho., was lost at sea in brig *Hope*, 1809. His wife was Martha (dau. of Capt. Nath'l 3d) Stillman.

STILLMAN, NATHANIEL, (Capt.), 3d (son of Capt. Nath'l 2d), was a Revol. soldier m. Martha Hamner and res. at head of High St., Commons, W. side, tho' he and his father, earlier, res. in the Belden ho., foot of Chemical Lane; he d. 1838, ae. 86; his son *Charles* perished at sea in the brig *Hope*, 1809, commanded by his bro.-in-law, Capt. Otis Stillman. Another son of Nath'l 3d, *Francis*, sea-capt., d. in N. Y., 1838; res. in Weth. in ho. now occup. by wid. of Dr. A. S. Warner.

The late Mayor Allyn S. Stillman, of Hartford, was a gd.-son of Capt. Nath'l 2d, by his son James.

STRATTON, WILLIAM, of Weth., mstr. of slp. *Victor*, 1797.

TALCOTT. This family, descendants of the Hon. Samuel Talcott, the Weth. Settler, is much less distinguished for its achievements on the water, than for its military record; which latter is truly remarkable, if we include those members thereof who, as citizens of other States, both North and South, have served in the armies of the U. S., especially in that of the late Confederate States. These latter officers, though born in the South, were descendants of that Capt. Samuel Talcott, of the militia, who rem. from Weth. to Glastonbury. Still, there were *some* sailors in the family; or, perhaps, we had better say the race, in speaking of the whole body of descendants of original settlers.

TALCOTT, EBENEZER, (son of Samuel and Thankful *Belden*) Talcott, b. abt. 1758, was lost at sea.

TALCOTT, JOSIAH, (bro. of above), a sailor, was drowned in Conn. River.

TALCOTT, JOHN, (bro. of above), a sailor, was lost in L. I. Sound, near Saybrook, while returning from a voyage to the W. I.

TALCOTT, JOHN, (Capt.), son of Dea. Benj. and Sarah (*Hollister*) Talcott, of Glast.; was a gd.-son of the Capt. Samuel, before mentioned. He was mstr. of the transport ship *Gull*, in the Cape Breton Expedition of 1745; from whence returning, he put in at Provincetown, Mass., where he d. and was bu.; his family rem. to Hebron.

TREAT. This family once numerous, and all dese'd from Richard, the Settler, or Matthias, is now extinct in Weth.; though many of the blood, tho' of other names, are still res. there. The Treats were mostly prominent in military and civil affairs—tho' there were a few who followed the sea.

TREAT, CHAUNCEY, (Capt.). 1824, of brig *Merchant*, built at Weth., 1816, for Justus Riley and in 1824, owned by Fred. Bangs, Henry Kilbourn and others of Htfd., and in for. trade.

TREAT, HORACE, mstr. of schr. *Mary Rose*, 1819, built at Weth., in 1816, and owned by Hon. Henry L. Ellsworth, of Htfd.

TREAT, JAMES, bu. at Galveston, Texas, 1840, ae. 48.

TREAT, JOHN H., (son of John and Prudence), d. at sea, 1806, ae. 21 yrs.

TREAT, JAMES, (bro. of above John H.), d. at sea, 4 Nov., 1840, ae. 41 yrs.

TREAT, JAMES, Capt. of brig *Eleanor*, Baltimore vessel, capt. 1798.

TRYON, JOSIAH, Capt., mstr. of schr. *Williams*, 1804, owned by John Caldwell and others, and eng. in W. I. trade. He may have res. in Waterbury, where many dese'ds of orig. Weth. settlers of the name rem. to.

TYRON, EZEKIEL, Capt., in 1811, was mstr. of slp. *Friendship*, owned by Jacob Williams of Ry-H. Poss, he was of Glast.

TRYON, MOSES, Jr., who had rem. to Htfd., was in 1806, pt. owner of brig *Connecticut*, and schr. *Archer*; and in 1807 of brig *James*; in 1815 pt. owner of schr. *Pearl*, and slp. *Hector*, in both of which vessels his co-partners were Thomas Tryon and Joseph Harris. Whether this Thomas was bro. to Moses, we know not; [in 1801, Moses Tryon, with John Williams, sold to Thomas Curtis, a "flat-bottomed schr." *The Black Prince*. B. A.]

UTLEY, HORACE, in 1816, had the schr. *Gen. Macomb*, built in Weth., 1815, for Htfd. owners.

WARNER, ALLEN, who d. 1848, ae. 75, was, perhaps a sailor: his son *Daniel* d. in 1817, on passage home from W. I., ae. 19 yrs.; another son, *Walter*, went West abt. 1836. Mr. Chas. Williams, of Ry-H., says that the Warners of that town claim to be descended from a Southern branch, from the Weth. stock.—S. W. A. Mr. W. F. Warner, of St. Louis, Mo., the family historian does not accept this view.—H. R. S.

WARNER, JONATHAN, Capt., who d. 1786, ae. 74, must have been a sailor—at least, no military commission issued to him, has been found.

WARNER, JOHN, Capt., who d. 1808, ae. 79, and was prob. the Capt. Warner, who had a vessel at the W. I., 1786.

WARNER, JOHN, Capt., whose wife was Elizabeth and whose son *Roger* d. 1770, ae. 30 yrs.

WARNER, JOHN, Jr., in 1829, (with Horace Welles), owned slp. *Mary*; he was prob. father of the late *Horace Warner* and of *James Warner*; who lives at Ry-H.

WARNER, WAIT, Capt., d. at Ry-H., 1804, ae. 72; he was (auth. of Dr. R. W. Griswold), gd-fthr. of the present *Wait Warner*, Sen.; he had also, a son *William*, also called Capt., who was lost at sea.

WARNER, WALTER, 2d, mstr. of slp. *Galén*, 1830.

WATERBURY. Several of this family (an old one in Weth.) have been mariners, if not sea-captains, and have sacrificed their lives early to their calling.

WATERBURY, JOSEPH, Jr., (son of Joseph, Sr.), d. at sea, 1825, ae. 30 yrs.

WATERBURY, SIMEON, (son of Joseph, Sen.), d. Jamaica, W. I., 1808, ae. 21.

WATERBURY, WILLIAM, (son of Joseph, Sen.) d. at Guadeloupe, 1805, ae. 21.

WEBB, JOHN, Capt., previously ment. as commanding the privateer *Fair Trader*, in 1782, was prob. son of Joseph Webb, Sen., whom we know had a son John; he was a man of much business and an active sea-captain. In 1795, while in command of brig *Nancy*, first day out from N. Lond. for a trip to W. I., he lost brig and cargo on Eaton's Neck; in 1796, he was Capt. of the brig *Pearl*, when capt. by Fr. or Sp. Cruisers. In 1790, he was mstr. of brig *Recovery*, plying to Lisbon.—See Caulkin's *Hist. New London*, pp. 488, 494, 496, 498.

WEBB, (Capt.) DAVID, desc't of Christopher, who settled at Braintree, Mass., 1645; d. 9 Oct., 1770, of small pox, and at sea. which may account for the absence of a stone to his memory, in the cemetery. Capt. Webb's second wife was Mary, the daughter of the Hezekiah Grimes, who operated the ferry at Rocky Hill, from 1734 until his death in 1749. Capt. Webb lived in the old house (the Brandagee-Webb-Candee house) burned down in 1876; that stood where the south end of the front building of the Pierce Hardware Company now is, at the Rocky Hill landing. He could not have been the David Webb at Stamford in the Revolutionary period.—*Dr. R. W. Griswold*.]

WEBB, WILLIAM, (Capt.), a noted sea-captain; d. at Rocky Hill, 1843, ae. 79; was son of Capt. David and res. in his father's ho.; shipbuilder, owner and master; exported from Ry-Hill and imported gds. to same; is supposed to have owned the South Wharf as an inheritance from his father and gd-father. Was an active man at Ry-Hill from abt. 1787, for 40 or 50 yrs.; was son-in-law of Capt. Wm. Griswold.

WEED, JAMES, (Capt.), of Ry-H., his wife Ketenah, d. 1781, ae. 59.

WELLES. In this family, among the descendants of Gov. Thomas, or of Hugh Welles, there have apparently been but few mariners.

WELLES, GIDEON, (son of Capt. Solomon, who built and res. in ho. once owned by Gen. Leonard R. Welles, his gd-son), was, in 1793, mstr. of brig *Polly*,

then plying to Port au Prince, W. I. In 1795, he d. on way home from W. I. and was bu. at sea, ae. 39. Upon the headstone erected to his memory in the Weth. Burying Ground, is a metrical inscription of some length, the first line whereof reads as follows:

"The Bosom of devouring seas entomb my mould'ring dust."

Though he is bu. at Weth., Dr. R. W. G. claims him for Ry-H. "It is not at all likely that Dr. Chapin would have put this name in his list of deaths, if the man had not lived in his parish—the date &c., on the passage for the W. I.," shows him to have been the same.

WELLES, JOHN, (Capt.), d. 1793, ae. 68 yrs.; wife Rebecca.

WELLES, HORACE, (Capt.), d. 1853, ae. 65 yrs.; his maritime career was brief; pt. owner of *Slp. Mary*, 1829.

WELLES, SIMEON, mstr. of brig *Ontario*, 1804, owned by Geo. Pierce of Htfd., and blt. in Weth., 1892; also, of schr. *Lydia*, in 1805; and brig *George*, 1806,—all in for. trade.

WELLES, THOMAS, owner (with Geo. Blinn, John Harris and Elisha Robbins) of *slp. Lady Washington*, 1795.

WHITMORE, HEZEKIAH, a ship-wright of some prominence, had a yard at Ry-H., where the schr. *Friendship* was built by him in 1804, and the ship *Brutus*, in 1806.

WILLIAMS. The families of this name in Weth. and Ry-Hill are of several distinct stocks. See our *Williams Genealogy*, Vol. II.

WILLIAMS, DANIEL, (Capt.), prob. a sailor. His wife Thankful d. at Ry-H.

WILLIAMS, ELIAS, (Capt.), of Glast., d. 1798, ae. 81 yrs.; was of another branch from that of Thomas, the Settler, and all the Williams in Ry-H. for past 100 yrs. have been desc'd'ts of his; was quite a draughtsman, and when at sea made drawings of ships, fishes, etc., or whatever attracted his attention.

WILLIAMS, JACOB, (Capt.), son of Jacob, and prob. gd-son of Thomas, d. 1813, ae. 58; his wife was Mehitable ———; their son Thomas B., d. W. I., 1821, ae. 17. A Capt. Jacob (prob. the same, acc. to Custom Ho. recs.) ran betw. 1795 and 1805, the schr. *Industry*, the sloops *Love*, *Sally*, *Little Patty*, *Nancy* and *Friendship*—tho' Mr. Chas. Williams credits the *slp. Industry* to John, not Jacob Williams. Capt. Jacob (first referred to above) bo't of Hannah Clark, the ppy. that came to her from her father Jonathan Smith, on the S. side of Ferry St., from abt. Cross St., and to the River, in 1739, and which formed the S. third of the orig. grant to Sam. Boardman, Jr., 1665. He built just in front of present Roderick Grimes' ho.

A Capt. JACOB, father of Capt. Jacob above, first mentioned, d. at Rocky Hill, 1751, ae. 62.

WILLIAMS, JOHN, who inherited his father's home on South St., was an active business man, largely engaged in ship-building and commerce, and is said to have had at times, five or six vessels employed in the W. I. trade, and to have been worth the large sum (for that day) of \$20,000. In the War of 1812-15, he lost, within the three years, five vessels and their cargoes, and this swept away the larger part of his ppy. his creditors taking the balance; he gave up the old homestead in 1820, and d. 1827, ae. 64 or 65.—*R. W. G.*

WILLIAMS, JOHN, in 1804, mate of schr. *Dolphin*, of Midd., to for. ports.—*Custom Ho. Rec.*

WILLIAMS, MOSES, son of Elial and Comfort, d. Port au Prince, W. I., 1794, ae. 22 yrs.

WILLIAMS, MOSES, (Capt.) d. at Rocky Hill, 1810, ae. 81 yrs.—likely a desc't of Thomas and son of Jacob, tho' his home was in the orig. Williams grant, in a ho. which he blt. close by the River, and N. of S. & E. S. Belden's shipyard.

WILLIAMS, ISRAEL, Capt. of the vessel which, in 1774, conveyed to Boston the contribution of provisions donated by the people of Weth. to those in B., who were suffering from the effects of the Boston Port Bill; in June, 1777, was authorized by the Council of Safety to sail to foreign ports with a schr. load of pork, to exch. for salt for the people of Glast.

WILLIAMS, THOMAS W and LEWIS, brothers, and their father, Englishmen or Welchmen by birth, res. and d. in Griswoldville. Thomas W. d. in California, 1880, ae. abt. 60; and was quite a noted whaling-captain, sailing from New London, or New Bedford; and his eldest son is said to be following the same calling in the northern Pacific Ocean. Lewis, also a res. of California, is supposed to be in same business.

WILLIAMS, ELISHA, Jr., (son of Rector and Col. Williams, by his first wife Eunice Chester), had an interest in several vessels; he m. Mehitabel Burnham, 1749, and d. 1784; occup. ho. which stood on site of Silas W. Robbins' present ho.; having built it in 1753-4, for his father, who prob. did not live to occup. it. He had a son Capt. Elisha, 3d, (a military title), who m. Sally (dau. of sea-captain Thomas) Newson.

WILLIAMS, EZEKIEL, Jr., (son of Sheriff Ezekiel, of Revol. memory, and nephew of the Rector), if not a mariner, was, at least, largely interested in shipping and for. trade; with John Caldwell and other, of Htfd., he owned brig *Betsy*, Capt. Bunce, Mstr., taken by the Fr. 1799; was, also, pt. owner of schr. *Betsy* and cargo, Capt. Francis Bulkeley, Mstr., cap. in 1800; also, with Capt. John Chenevard, of Htfd., owner of schr. *Peggy* and cargo. Capt. Geo. Benton, capt. same yr. Mr. Williams was at this time abt. 35 yrs. old, and his marine interests were evidently many and important. Perhaps his father (at this time aged abt. 70) was also interested in the same. Ezekiel Williams, Jr., rem. to Htfd.; the late Oliver Ellsworth Williams was his son. Among his bros. were the late "Squire" John Williams, of Weth., the late Chief Judge Thomas S. Williams, of Htfd., and William Williams, a signer of the Declaration of Independence was his uncle.

- WILLIAMS, SIMEON, owner and mstr. of slp. *Two Brothers*, 1797; with Joseph Edwards, owner, 1795, of slp. *Delight*; in 1796, with Isaac Goodrich, of slp. *Two Brothers*.
- WILLIAMS, ELIAS and ELIAS, with JACOB and WILLIAM, were owners, 1795, of schr. *Industry*; prob. all of Ry-H.
- WILLIAMS, WILLIAM, pt. owner, with Israel and Jacob Williams, of slps. *Sally* and *Eagle*, 1797; and of schr. *Peggy*, 1804; of brig. *William*, 1807.
- WILLIAMS, William, (prob. above), builder of the schr. *Mary Rose*, blt. in Ry-H., in yard N. of present railroad depot; vessel named after his dau-in-law, dau. of Capt. John Rose, of Weth.; bro. of late Chauncey Rose, of Terre Haute, Ind. (*Chas. Wms. of Ry-H.*)
- WILLIAMS, JOHN, 2d. in 1798, pt. owner, with Philo Goodrich, of Schr. *Ursula*; in 1803, he owned slp. *Jack*; in 1806, he and Sam. Dimock owned schr. *Victory*; 1807, he and Justus Robbins owned schr. *Nancy*; 1809, he owned slp. *Charles*; in 1810, he was pt. owner of schr. *Sally*, and sole owner of slp. *Merino*; 1815 sole owner of slp. *Sally*. Dr. Griswold says the slp. *Friendship* was built and run not by Jacob, but by John Williams, and Mr. Chas. Williams thinks she was capt. by the Br. off Saybrook, taken to N. Lond. and burned, Capt. Chas. Abbey of Glast. being master. The Custom Ho. rec. say she was built in 1802; in 1806 Jacob Williams is called owner and captain. Later masters were Ezekiel Tryon, Belden Wolcott, and Geo. Crane. A schr. of same name was built by Hez. Williams in 1805, owned by 11 Ry-Hill men, and of which Wm. Webb was master. From other parts of Dr. Griswold's letters, I infer that it was the *Merino* and not the *Friendship* which was capt. and burned in 1812. S. W. A.
- WILLIAMS, ROGER, 1810, pt. owner of schr. *Sally*.
- WILLIAMS, WAIT, with Josiah Butler and Wm. Williams, owner of slp. *Jane*, 1819.
- WILLARD JOSIAH, had slp. *Defiance*, 1801; if, as we suspect, he was from Newington, he is the only mstr. of a vessel who can be credited to that section of the township.
- WOODHOUSE, the descendants of Joseph Woodhouse the Settler, who came from England about 1710 have included some navigators and shipwrights. Joseph, in 1716 bought the Thomas Wickham dwelling (the first brick ho. built in Weth.) on W. side of High St. next S. of the Common. Some of his desc. were coopers, in the day when cooperage was a leading industry here.
- WOODHOUSE, LEVI, (son of Abijah and Jane James) a sailor; d. at Jamaica, 1808, ae. 21.
- WOODHOUSE, JAMES, (prob. bro. of above) d. at sea, 1821, ae. 30.
- WOODHOUSE, JOSEPH, drowned at sea 1811, ae. 28, was son of John and Sarah Buck Woodhouse; and his wife was a desc. of Curtis, a desc. of Gen Welles.

WOODHOUSE, SAMUEL, Sen., whose wife was Thankful *Blinn*, was father of a number of sailors, viz.

- I. SOLOMON, Capt., a first class navigator, lost off Cape Hatteras, 1794, young and single.
- II. SAMUEL, Capt., m. Abigail Goodrich and lived to be 78; d. 1834—having survived several sons cut off in their prime—of wh. one George, was lost at sea, 1817, ae. 25, leaving a wid., Hannah, dau. of Elisha Coleman and a son of the late Samuel Woodhouse, Esq., of Griswoldville.
- III. HENRY, d. at Charleston, S. C., 1826, ae. 25; unmarried
- IV. HUMPHREY, Capt., built many vessels and was also a skillful navigator to foreign ports; m. Rebecca (dau. of Camp. and Mehitabel Baxter) Adams; he d. 1827, ae. 56; with Gov. Wolcott owned the slp. *Gull*, built by Sylvester Havens; and the first vessel (it was claimed) which went to South America; also built and owned the *Venus* (built by S. Havens) which was wrecked on Block Island, Havens and Nath'l Alvord of Windsor owners with him His son *Humphrey, Jr.*, was master of many vessels and a skillful coast pilot; he m. dau. of late Walter Thos. Harris (father of late Walter and Henry Harris) and d. 1872, ae. 77. One of his sons is James H. of New Haven, who—if our memory serves us correctly—informed us that he had built about 50 vessels since he rem. to that city; another son (and bro. to James H.) is *Humphrey*, for many years a leading shipper and mcht. at Brownville, Tex. A sister of Capt. Humphrey Woodhouse, viz. Julia wid. of late Sec'y of State, Royal R. Hinman and since died, res. in Htfd., ae. 80 yrs.—to whom S. W. A. was indebted for the foregoing information.

WRIGHT, this family descended from Thomas the Settler, who, in 1639, res. at W. side of High St., has furnished some mariners.

WRIGHT, ASHBEL, Capt., d. 1817, ae. 59 yrs.—the title *may* have been a military one.

Eleazer Wright of Weth. "last Saturday morning fell from the mizzen—top of a vessel that is bldg. at a dock in this city [Htfd.] survived but a few hours."—*Courant*, May 29, 1805.

WRIGHT, CRAFTS, Capt., (son of Capt., military title) Timothy, and his Christian name derived from an ancestor Moses Crafts and d. 1760, ae. 40.

WRIGHT, JOHN, (prob. son of Capt. Craft Wrights Martha (dau. of John) Robbins; he d. 1786, ae. 38; assisted in building and became master of slp. *Ann*, built at Stepney in 1773. by John Ames and Joseph Dimock, for Samuel Boardman; mcht. Wright made a six days' trip in sleigh to Conn. to get the iron used in her construction. In 1774 and '75 was at N. Y. with onions became part owner of the schr. *Speedwell*, of which he was commander in 1777.

As to the number and names of vessels built at the yards in the township, it is very difficult to prepare anything like a complete list. I am told that Mr. Philemon Robbins, a native of Wethersfield, but

later of Hartford, remembered seeing *nine vessels* on the stocks, at one time, at Rocky Hill. A partial list prepared by Judge Adams, of Wethersfield-built vessels, embraces the names of *sixty-six* built here between 1784 and 1832. [This list, which includes none built by the Beldens, at the present ship-yard, is omitted here, as their names and dates have been given elsewhere in this already too long chapter—H. R. S.]

Were the Custom House records complete, it might have been possible to extend the above mentioned list. Quite a number of vessels were here builded for Nantucket parties, presumably for whaling purposes.

After this chapter had been begun, and was well under way, Judge Adams, discovered from an examination of the *licenses* of ship-masters, in the Custom House, some additional names of masters, not before mentioned; these have been included, however, by the present editor, in the foregoing list.

CHAPTER XIII.

Ecclesiastical Denominations (Other than Congregational, or Presbyterian) in Wethersfield.

[BY SHERMAN W. ADAMS, ESQ.]

HAVING NOW sketched the history of the Old or First Church of Wethersfield, we proceed to trace the rise and progress of later and other congregations within the Town. But, first, we must say a word as to the general history of these dissenting bodies.

Dissenters.—These may be said to have been the outgrowth of the regular, or “established” church—it being understood that by the latter term we particularly designate the Church founded upon the Confession of Faith, and heads of agreement adopted by the Elders and Messengers who composed the Saybrook Convention. As early as 1708, the General Court had enacted that such persons as “soberly dissent from the way of worship and ministrie established by the antient laws of this government,” might, in the County Court, qualify themselves, in the mode provided by act of Parliament, and, thereafter, worship God “in a way *separate* from that which is by law established,” etc. But, it was also provided that this should not excuse such persons from paying the taxes laid for the support of the *regular* ministry. And, at this time, wilful absence from a place of public worship was an indictable offense. In 1723, it was punishable by a fine of twenty shillings, to “form into separate companies in private houses,” under color of gathering together “for preaching and other parts of divine worship.” In 1730, it was enacted that “those who profess themselves of the Congregational, or Presbyterian persuasion” ought not “qualify themselves,” as provided in the Act of 1708; thus discouraging the subdivision of churches in the same Society limits, even though they dissented. In 1727, it had been enacted that such persons as were “of the Church of England” should be taxed for the support of the ministry (*i. e.*, the Presbyterian, or Congregational) of the parish in which they lived, except there happened to be a “*Society* of the Church of England” in such parish, and a person in orders, settled and performing divine service among them; in which case the tax should be handed by the collector to the rector of such Episcopal Church; and the mem-

bers of the latter were "excused" from payment of taxes to build meeting-houses "for the present established churches of this government." Thus, legislation particularly favored and fostered Congregationalism. In May, 1729, the Quakers, and in October of the same year the Baptists, were allowed to form in church organization and support ministers of their own denominations, and be thereafter exempt from taxation for support of the regular clergy. Both of these sects were also called "dissenters."

In 1743, the privileges of dissenters were extended to "Presbyterians, or Congregationalists"; they having, in some towns, construed the Act of 1708, to apply to the established church of the Colony as well as to irregular denominations—if we may properly so designate all the others.

By the same Act of 1743, all dissenting *protestants* were informed that they might "expect relief" on application to the General Assembly. Thereafter, it became the practice for different church organizations to be formed on application to Legislature; the petitioners alleging that they "soberly dissented from the established church," and it being found that they were worshipping in a "separate church." In some cases, petitioners alleged that they were "of that profession, or denomination, called *Separates*"; but, as a rule, the term "Separates" did not refer to a distinct sect, but was oftener a general term to indicate such, as having formerly worshipped with the regular church parish, were now desirous of separating themselves therefrom, in order to form an independent body. Most commonly, the "sober dissenters" were Baptists, and so called in their petitions. These Acts of Toleration dropped out in the Revision of 1750.

It was in 1777 that the Legislature enacted the law specially exempting "those persons in this State, commonly styled Separates, from taxes for the support of the established ministry," etc. The preamble states the occasion of the Act, as being that: "There are some Churches in this State, of persons professing themselves to be *strict Congregationalists*, who notwithstanding, have separated themselves from the Churches and Congregations established by the laws of this State, and are yet liable to pay taxes for supporting the ministry," etc. The object of the Act seems to have been to place the *separating* congregations on the same footing, as to exemption from taxation on account of the "established" church of the parish—with the Baptists, Quakers and Episcopalians. The effect was, also, to permit the organization of *additional* Congregational societies, within the same parish limits

where there was one such already. But, the new society, unlike the old, or "established" one, was without territorial limits and its members were prohibited from voting in Society meetings excepting on questions involving the management of schools and educational matters. And the established church of the parish continued to be supported at the general charge of the inhabitants of the parish until the formation of our Constitution. Some preparation for this change had been made by the Act of 1784 (in the revision of that year), providing for the exemption of church-going dissenters, of all denominations; the Act of 1791, which removed some of the trammels which had impeded the formation of new societies; and the Act of 1804, which authorized an *established*, or original church, to newly organize, and be divorced from the civil, or municipal features of parish rights and duties.

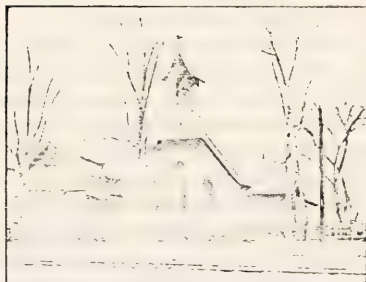
Under these varying circumstances of the legal *status* of ecclesiastical bodies, the number and kind of such had been rapidly increasing in the Colony and State. In 1680, Gov. Leete informed the British "Committee for Trade and Foreign Plantations" that—the"strict Congregational men," and the "more large Congregational men" are the "greatest part of the people in the Colony." He also reported that—"there are some moderate Presbyterians"; also, "4 or 5 Seven-day men, and about so many more Quakers." At the same time, there being 26 towns within the Colony limits, there were but 21 churches in all. But undoubtedly there were many individuals attached to churches of Congregational worshippers, who were ready to form in bodies of other denominations so soon as accessions to their numbers should be large enough. Milford, oldest daughter of Wethersfield, had a church of "Dissenters from the Established Church" as early as 1750; thus showing itself more active in ecclesiastical matters than its parent. This church, of which Rev. Job Prudden was pastor—called itself "Presbyterian" in 1760. In Newtown, a Society of the "Church of England" was apparently in a flourishing condition in 1752. In Killingly, in 1755, a society calling itself "Separates" had a church of its own. In 1757, a Baptist Society at Enfield was granted special privileges; and it claimed to have been long embodied in church estate under the pastoral care of Joseph Meacham. Another such church was formed in Lyme in 1767.

The Baptists.—The first preaching done in Wethersfield, by a Separatist, was probably by the Rev. Ebenezer Frothingham, in 1745. He had been ordained there, in October of that year. The next year he

ROMAN
CATHOLIC
CHURCH.



BAPTIST CHURCH.



METHODIST
CHURCH.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

WETHERSFIELD CHURCHES.

suffered imprisonment, for five months, "for preaching without the consent of the minister of the parish."¹

[From MRS. MARIA H. BURDITT, of Wethersfield, we have received a time-worn and stained document, of about the middle of the last century, endorsed "A Copy of a Letter written by Ebenezer Frothingham to his persecutor when in Prison for his Religion." The "persecutor" to whom it is addressed was probably the Rev. James Lockwood, then pastor of the Wethersfield Congregational Church, who, under the existing law of the Colony, may have felt himself obliged to proceed against one who, with his few followers, was disturbing the peace of the community.

"Hartford Goal, April 25th, 1745.

Dear fellow Mortal—You & I are passing into Vast Eternity & Least I should have no other opportunity to Discharge my duty according to *Leviticus* 19th 17 verse. I Embrace this by paper to Let you know this time perhaps you have a prejudice in your heart against me (& opposing the Glorious & Blessed work of god that has been in Wethersfield & the Land & for your Denying the power & Operations of gods spirit in the hearts of Believers & for your Carnal & Vain Conversation which is Enmity against God see *Romans* 8-7 verse & it is Evident to me as Seen by the teaching of gods spirit & his word and your fruits—that you are an open Enemy to god & his Children & have the mark of the Beast in your forehead you are pulling down the Just vengeance of God upon you & your family from day to day & in a Condemned State *John* 3-36 verse and are doomed Down to the burning main of gods Vengeance & unless you are Converted & God give you Repentance you will shortly be cursed Down Down to the Bottomless pit among Devils and Damned Spirits to welter out a whole Eternity of torment, farther your taking me from my Bussiness that god in his providence Called me to & carried me to the justice & then to prison which you had no warrant from the word of god to do, nor no authority under heaven—as a Civil authority has no Right to meddle with Ecclesiastical affairs (if I had transgress'd it was to the Church & Christ the great

¹ 1745 was prob. the year of Mr. Frothingham's disturbances of Weths.' religious peace—for on *Recs. of Co. Ct.* Vol. R. Case 159, under date of April, 1745 we find note of "Ebenezer Frothingham of Weth., found guilty by jury, and fined for false and reviling speeches concerning Rev. James Lockwood." See, also, date of his letter from Htfd. goal, in the text.

Ebenezer Deming, Jr. of Weth. (see Case 156 same vol. of *Co. Ct. Recs.*) "fined for disturbing worship" Nov. 1745, and Jedidiah Atwood, Weth. (Case 43,) fined Nov. 1745, fined for criticising doctrines of Rev. Mr. Wadsworth of Htfd. First Church—were probably adherents of Mr. Frothingham.

Sheperd has Committed all the power to them) See *Matthew* 18-17-18 Vers's & if you fail of the grace of god your thus dealing with me will be another Great aggravation of your Eternal Damnation ———. By this time perhaps you have a prejudice in your heart against me (& the truth) supposing I have written in anger or spight against you for your treatment to me—But dear soul I Could freely fall down & kiss your feet if it might be any means for you to see the truth of the awful state of your Immortal Soul. I entreat & Beseech of you to set about the great work of Getting your peace made with god that if the Day of grace is not already Come to an End with you—Paradventure the Lord may send his spirit to shine with you once more this is What I want & all I desire of you, is that you may Experimentally know Jesus Christ whom to know aright is Life Eternal & I should rejoice Eternally with you if you will accept of a Crucified, Despised & Exalted Saviour Let me Intreat & warn you as you would not bring Down Swift Destruction upon your Self not to scoff any more at the work and power of god nor at the new Lights as they are Called nor yet to touch them in matters of Religion to Carry them before authority for in so doing you touch the apple of Christ's Eye, and these Lines will be a swift witness against you. These lines from your soul well wisher.

E. F."—*H. R. S.]*

There were but few members of Mr. Frothingham's society, and he soon divided his time between Wethersfield and Middletown. At the latter place he, in 1754, established what is now known as the South Church. He died at Middletown, in 1798, aged 81 years.

In 1784, one FRANCIS HANMER, the "Elder" of the Congregational (or Presbyterian Church, as it sometimes called itself), with Joseph and Simeon Flower, John and Simeon Deming, John Goodrich, James Hanmer, John Stewart and Abijah Tryon, memorialized the regular church for abatement of their church taxes, on the ground that they "soberly dissent from meeting with their congregation for public worship on the Sabbath." In December, 1785, the Old Society voted to abate these taxes, and in the recorded vote, also said: "This Society is desirous to give all men free liberty of conscience to worship God as they see fit and to pay their moneys to such persons as they choose for preaching the gospel to them." A similar vote was passed in January, 1787; but in February, the same year, probably owing to extensive repairs then being made on the meeting house—a vote to exempt was negatived. This was the origin of the BAPTIST Society in Wethersfield; unless we date from the time of services being first held by these Separates, to which we have above referred.

So far as the *names* of the memorialists above mentioned are any indication—the Separates of Wethersfield were not descendants of the earliest settlers of the Town, but were, in the main, comparatively recent comers. The Society is now included in the Hartford Association of the Connecticut Baptist Convention.

The Rev. E. P. Bond, a former pastor of the Baptist Church in Wethersfield fixes the date of the organization of that Society in 1782, but on what authority, the writer is not informed. What is well known is that its first place of worship was the School-house of the Third, or North-Brick, School District. Mr. Bond has furnished the writer with the names and dates of incumbency of the pastors and other matters which follow in this connection.

The first house of worship was built in 1816, and its site was some rods west of that occupied by the Baptist Church of to-day. After a few years it was removed to the south corner of Main St. and Sandy Lane. In 1876, it was demolished, and the present structure erected on its site. It was a frame building, painted white; had galleries, and a central porch, or tower, at its eastern entrance. It had a brick basement for Sunday school purposes. A fine new bell (1,050 pounds) has recently been put in place. No description of the present church edifice is needed here.

The *first resident* pastor was Rev. William BENTLEY, who held the sacred office from Oct., 1815, to Oct., 1822. He was born in Newport, R. I., March 3d, 1775. In 1775, the house and tannery of his father were burned by the British at the taking of that place; the family escaping to Dighton. The boy William was apprenticed to a baker in Boston. He was converted under Baptist preaching, and continued in business until his ordination in 1807, as a preacher, and served without settlement, at Woburn and Tiverton, R. I., and at Malden, New Bedford and Worcester, Mass. From Worcester, he came to Wethersfield, and the latter place remained his home until his death, Dec. 24th, 1855. After his resignation, in 1822, he often supplied the pulpit; but was mainly occupied as a State missionary.

The Rev. SETH EWER was the next pastor; his term beginning early in 1823, and ending near the close of 1824. He was a man of about 50 years of age, when he came here, and in addition to his pastoral duties, taught a private school.

From 1825 to 1834, there was no resident pastor. During this period the Rev. REUBEN WINCHELL supplied the pulpit for about a year. In Feb., 1834, Rev. JOHN HOLBROOK, now deceased, was installed pastor; but he left in September of the same year. From this time until

1839, there was no stated preacher; the most frequent occupants of the pulpit being the Rev. Augustus Bolles and Rev. Gurdon Robbins, both of Hartford.

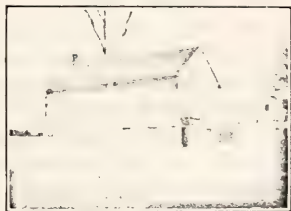
From Sept., 1839, to Sept., 1841, Rev. WILLIAM REID, a native of Scotland, was the pastor. Wethersfield was his first place of settlement. He has since been pastor at Tariffville, Bridgeport and New London, Ct., and Greenport, L. I., being now pastor of a church at Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Rev. HENRY KENYON was the pastor from the summer of 1842, until early in 1844. He was succeeded by the Rev. HENRY I. SMITH, who continued until August, 1845. The Rev. CYRUS MINER, since deceased, was pastor for one year, beginning in April, 1846; Rev. HENRY BROMLEY was pastor from April, 1847, to April, 1849.

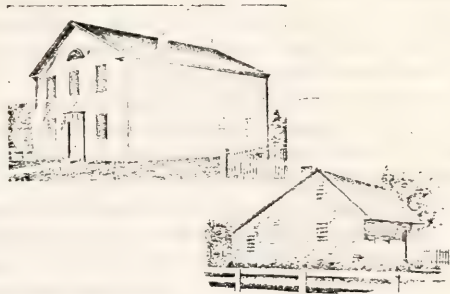
The Rev. PIERPONT BROCKETT (father of Linus P. Brockett, the well known literary writer) came to Wethersfield, from Canton, and was pastor from April, 1849, to April, 1852. He continued to reside in Wethersfield, where he died, quite advanced in years, in April, 1868.

From May, 1852, to Oct., 1853, Rev. H. B. WHITTINGTON was pastor. The next settlement was that of Rev. WILLIAM S. PHILLIPS, Sen., from June, 1860, to Feb., 1862. He died some years since in South Carolina. Rev. AMASA HOWARD, later chaplain at the State Prison, succeeded him, from Jan., 1864, to Apr., 1866; he was the father of Dr. Arthur Howard, of Weth., and died some years since. Rev. GEORGE W. KINNEY was pastor from April, 1868, to Jan., 1869. Rev. JOSEPH BURNETT from Oct., 1870, to Nov., 1872. Rev. Henry G. SMITH from March, 1873, to March, 1874. Rev. WM. S. PHILLIPS, Jun., from Apr., 1874, to Apr., 1875. He died about 1880, at South Chelmsford, Mass. Rev. A. RANDLETT was pastor from May, 1875, to June, 1877. The second house of worship was erected in 1876, during his pastorate. Rev. A. S. BURROWS, from Aug., 1877, to Nov., 1878. Rev. E. P. BOND began in May, 1879, and after his resignation, removed from the town. He was much beloved by all the townspeople, and his daughter Ella is now a foreign missionary.

Methodists in Wethersfield.—While the advent of the Baptists may be located at about the middle of the last century, Methodism found a footing here at a much later date. The influence of Roger Williams had been felt within the Colony almost from the time of its settlement; but Methodism was non-existent in America until after the coming of John Wesley to these shores, and his return to England. In fact, the first Methodist Society in England was founded only in 1738; and not until 1784, was its *episcopal* element established in this



THE OLD "CORNER STORE."
Burned March, 1896.



FIRST METHODIST MEETING HOUSE AND PARSONAGE.

country. In so far as the teachings of George Whitfield were *preparatory* to Methodist ideas, the beginning was very early; for that powerful exhorter preached to a great multitude assembled, so it is said, under the ample shelter of the great elm which stood, until a few years since, in the south central portion of Broad St. This was in October, 1740, when he was journeying from Northampton to New Haven.

But it was reserved for a Virginian, Jesse Lee, who was then travelling through the State, in company with a younger preacher, Rev. Daniel Smith, to preach, fifty years later, the first distinctively Methodist sermon in Wethersfield. This was March 14th, 1790. Mr. Lee preached in the North Brick School House, and his Diary records (as quoted in Stevens' *Hist. of Methodism*, II, 444), that his hearers "sincerely felt" what he said, and that tears ran down from their eyes. This was some two and a half years after he had formed the first Methodist "Class" in New England;¹ namely at Stratford, Conn. The Rev. Geo. L. Coburn, a former pastor of the Methodist Church at this place, recently prepared a "Historical Sketch of the Wethersfield Meth. Epis. Church," from which we have obtained most of the facts set down in this connection.

The noted Maryland preacher, Rev. Freeborn Carrettsen, preached in Wethersfield on the 18th of July, in the same year.² And other itinerants came from time to time, until 1821, when a "circuit," comprising Wethersfield, Newington, New Britain and Kensington, was formed. Like the Baptists, the Methodists held their first services in the North Brick School-house. The Rev. William S. Pease ("Billy" Pease) was assigned to take the charge of this first circuit, it being included in the New York East District of the N. E. Southern Conference. In 1824, Rocky Hill, among others, was added to the circuit; and in 1832, West Rocky Hill. Mr. Pease, after two years' service in Wethersfield, was followed in the spring of 1823, by Rev. John Lucky, and he, in spring of 1824, by Rev. Smith Dayton.

For some years prior to 1824, services were held in the Academy Hall. There are those living who remember the excitement consequent upon the grant of permission to use the Hall for such a purpose.

¹ In May, 1791, according to a memorandum by Pres. Stiles (*Diary*, III 418) there were only three Methodist classes in Connecticut, viz. at East Hartford, Cornwall and Waterbury. He adds: "At the 2 first they have had the Sacrament of Lord's Supper. At Cornwall they invited every one present to partake, and actually gave the Communion to one person who had never been baptized."

² Being in Hartford, "he rode to Weth. and preached at eleven and two o'clock and then returned to the city, where he preached at five o'clock. Rev. Mr. Coburn's *Hist. Sketch of M. E. Ch. in Weth.* 1882, p. 8.

The building was closed against ingress; the lights were removed, and, on one occasion at least, it was necessary for a magistrate to appear upon the scene, and "read the riot-act."¹ We are sorry to record our belief that bigotry had much to do with this discreditable conduct; but we are happy also to say that all trace of intolerance by any protestant sect toward another, in this township, has long since passed away.

On the 11th of April, 1824, the corner-stone of the first Methodist Church edifice in Wethersfield was laid. This stone was marked with the above date, but contained no cavity for the reception of the usual deposits. The long clapboarded structure was built upon a tract of one-fourth acre, on which was standing the old-fashioned one-story dwelling house demolished in 1882. The latter is supposed by Mr. Coburn to have been built in 1786; but we think it much more probable that it was *removed* to its site at that time. The removal of houses from one place to another in Wethersfield has been so common an occurrence as to lead some one to say that it was "the place where they build old houses." And the appearance of the house in question is indicative of its having been built at a much earlier date than 1786.

The original vote for the erection of the church was passed at the Second Quarterly Conference, Sept. 29th, 1821; a committee consisting of Joseph C. Dolittle, Richard Cowles and Oliver Weldon being appointed for the purpose. The Board of Trustees of the Society, in 1824, consisted of Chauncey Welles, George Coleman, William Barrett, Walter Warner, John Wheeler, Erastus Deming, Stephen Barrett, John Larkin and Oliver Wolcott, all of Wethersfield, and all now deceased. The timber of the new building was contributed by different people, and much of the material and labor was thus supplied. For a long time "rude seats were formed by placing planks across the timbers, upon which the worshipers sat while their feet rested upon the ground." Until 1846, the pulpit stood in the front, or west end of the church; but at this time, it was placed at the opposite end, and the pews were turned around. Other internal improvements were made this time and also in 1877. For a time, the old house, already referred to was used as a parsonage, but for many years prior to 1882, it was leased as a dwelling-house.

In October, 1880, the Society took action looking to the complete rebuilding of the old structure. Under the direction of the pastor, as-

¹ It was on this occasion that when the officer ordered the people away under penalty of the law, Mr. Pease, holding the only candle in the hall, boldly replied: "We have not come here for any riot, but to serve the living God; let us pray."—and the meeting proceeded. *Hist.* p. 9.

sisted by A. S. Brainard and Albro Morgan, plans were procured, and money raised (the latter by subscription) sufficient to defray the expenses, about \$2,500. The principal donors to this fund were William Boardman, of Hartford, Conn., and Henry H. Dickinson, of Brooklyn, N. Y., both natives of Wethersfield. Besides completely remodelling the building, it was removed a few feet to the rear, an addition made at the east end, a tower in the front, a basement formed under the whole, and the old parsonage removed. The work was completed in August, 1882, and a re-dedication took place September following.

We give herewith, taken from Mr. Coburn's Sketch, the names of the pastors of this church, with the dates of their respective pastorates:

1821-2, Rev. Wm. S. Pease and Robert Seney; 1823, John Lucky; 1824, Smith Dayton; 1825-6, J. Z. Nichols and S. L. Stillman; 1827, Eli Deniston; 1828, John Parker; 1829, Valentine Buck; 1830, Lyman A. Sanford; 1831, L. C. Cheney; 1832, Leman Andrews; 1833-4, E. L. Griswold (afterward Presiding Elder of New Haven District) and ——— Stone; 1835, Daniel Burroughs; 1836, Z. N. Lewis; 1837, Gad. N. Smith; 1838-9, Leonidas Rosser; 1840, H. Husted; 1841, Laban Clark; 1842-3, Sylvester H. Clark; 1844-5, Wm. F. Stillman; 1846, Miles N. Olmstead; 1847, Nathaniel Kellogg; 1848, David Miller; 1849-50, James T. Bell; 1851, R. D. Kirby; 1852-3, ———; 1854, Johnson G. Griswold; 1855, Charles C. Burr and ——— Stockes; 1856, Charles K. True; 1857, ———; 1858-9, Raphael Gilbert; 1860, Isaac Sanford; 1861, James Garrett; 1862, D. C. Hughes; 1863, B. Whitman Chase; 1864-5, G. P. Ellsworth and J. G. Griswold; 1866, Salmon Jones; 1867, Geo. E. Reed and E. McChesney; 1868, George E. Reed and ——— Richards; 1869, A. Palmer and George Woodruff; 1870, Perry Chandler; 1871, Joseph B. Shepherd; 1872, James Nixon; 1873-4, Chas. H. Hemstreet; 1875, A. O. Abbott; 1876, Albert Nash; 1877, C. J. North; 1878, Joseph B. Shepherd; 1879, David Nash; 1880-3, Geo. L. Coburn; April, 1883, T. S. Townsend; April, 1884, Daniel Brown; April, 1885, Harvey H. Paine; April, 1886, J. A. Cole; April, 1887, F. W. Hannon; April, 1890, Theodore S. Henderson; April, 1891, Benjamin F. Meredith; April, 1893, E. B. Singer; April, 1895, for one month, W. Green; May, 1895, J. H. Fairchild; April, 1896, J. R. Henry; April, 1897, Alfred L. Hubbard; April, 1899, George L. Coburn; April, 1901, Ralph Wells Keeler, present incumbent.

Under Mr. Coburn's ministry, in 1880, a determined movement was made towards replacing the old church edifice with a new and better one; and by the strenuous exertions of an active pastor and a financially

weak congregation, aided by the cordial good feeling and material help offered by their Congregational brethren, the present elegant building known as "the Boardman Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church," was provided and completed in 1882. During the rebuilding, the congregation worshipped in the Baptist Church, on invitation of that congregation—a strong contrast in the way of Christian charity, to the five months' imprisonment endured 145 years before by the first Baptist representatives in Wethersfield, the Rev. Ebenezer Frothingham.—See p. —, *ante*.

Episcopalians.—In 1729, the Rev. Samuel Johnson, who was afterwards President of Kings College (now known as Columbia University), New York City, and who five years previously had become the rector of the first Church of England in the Colony, at Stratford, Conn., made a visit to Westerly, R. I., and to New London and Wethersfield, in Connecticut, for the purpose of establishing Episcopal Churches at those places, but his efforts were nearly fruitless.

The earliest organized Society of Protestant Episcopalians in Wethersfield, was in the Newington section, in 1797, where a church edifice was erected by its members in the south end of that parish; but the society—which was the outcome of dissensions in the Congregational Church there—soon became divided against itself, was disorganized and its edifice sold and demolished. See Chapter on *Newington*.

In 1840 or '41, the Rev. (later Bishop) John Williams, then a young man connected with Washington (now Trinity) College at Hartford, preached a single sermon at Wethersfield. But it was not until over a quarter of a century later, Nov., 1866, that the Rev. Henry W. Nelson, then rector of the Church of the Good Shephard, at Hartford, conferred with some of the people of Wethersfield as to the advisability of establishing an Episcopal Church here. There was, however, at that time, some want of harmony in the Congregational Church, on account of the recent dismissal of its pastor, and Christian courtesy decided that it would be unkind to introduce this new element of discussion, just then. A little later, however, 12 January, 1868, services were inaugurated at Academy Hall, at which about 120 persons were present.

At the second one, held two weeks later, 155 were present; Rector Nelson officiating in both cases. On June 14th, Bishop Williams preached. From this time until July, services were held every other week; thereafter, weekly. On Trinity Sunday, 1869, Bishop Williams administered the rite of confirmation to a class of eight persons. On



THE BOARDMAN M. E. CHAPEL, WETHERSFIELD, CONN.

1824. Rebuilt 1882.

Sunday, June 20th, 1869, Mr. John H. Watson, then a student at Berkeley Divinity School, but afterward Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, at Hartford, began a regular morning service. The next Sunday a Sunday School was organized. On the 5th of August, the Sacrament of the Holy Communion was administered for the first time, by Rev. Mr. Nelson.

The form for organizing the parish was signed at the House of the late Henry C. Dwight, Oct. 5th, 1869. The officers, being the first for the mission and parish, were: Austin Robertson, Clerk; F. T. Chapman, Warden; Sam. W. Goodrich, Horace Robbins, and A. E. Warner, Vestrymen; Stephen Bulkley, Treasurer. The new parish was called "Trinity Church Parish." A committee, consisting of Mr. Chapman, Mr. Bulkley and George Smith, reported to a meeting held Oct. 27th, 1869, in favor of purchasing the lot on which the church stands and a vote then passed to purchase it.

On Advent Sunday, Nov. 28th, 1869, Mr. Frank L. Norton, then a member of the Divinity School at Middletown, but now Rector of St. John's Church, Troy, N. Y., began work in the parish, under Rector Nelson's direction. On the 15th of June, 1870, the Annual Convention of the Diocese of Connecticut, at Hartford, formally received the parish into union with the Diocese; Mr. Chapman being the delegate.

On June 1st, 1871, the corner-stone of the church was laid, with the usual imposing and impressive ceremonies. The financial crisis shortly intervened, and prevented continuance of the work of construction, until September, 1872. In 1871, Mr. Barnwell was lay reader for a time; in 1872, Mr. S. J. Kent had charge of the morning services; Mr. Morrison and Mr. Wm. P. Nichols also read services. From the summer of 1873, until Easter, 1874, Mr. R. M. Edwards was the reader.

On Sunday, Dec. 21st, 1873, the new building of Portland Red sandstone was occupied for the first time, the Bishop being present. From Easter, 1874, to May, 1875, the Rev. Francis Goodwin, of Hartford, was in charge. The consecration of the new edifice, by Bishop Williams, occurred Thursday, Oct. 1st, 1874; Bishop Doane, of Albany, and several clergymen, being present. At Easter, 1875, the baptismal font and communion service were presented by members of the parish.

The parish remained under the rectorship of the Rev. Mr. Nelson until April, 1875, when a resident rector was determined upon, and the Rev. Howard S. Clapp, of Hartford, invited for a year, held his first service May 30th, 1875. In the summer of that year a Sunday

School Library was contributed by a member. A bell was procured and hung in Oct., 1875, its weight being 800 lbs. In the month of December, seats were put in, Dr. Gurdon W. Russell, of Hartford, contributing \$100 for the purpose. At the annual meeting of the Society, in April, 1876, the Rev. Howard Clapp was elected to be the rector of the parish. In 1877, a formal conveyance of the church property was made, by the Rev. Mr. Nelson, to the Society for Donations and Bequests of the Diocese, in trust, for the use of Trinity Parish. The final indebtedness of \$500 was cleared off in the same year.

Rev. Mr. Clapp's ministry closed 29 Apr., 1883. He was succeeded by Rev. Henry A. Adams, from 13 May, 1883, to 26 Apr., 1885; by Rev. Benjamin S. Sanderson, 5 July, 1885, to 8 Oct., 1886; Wm. W. Bellinger, 1 Oct. 1886, to 25 Aug., 1889; Rev. Louis A. Lamphier, 2 Feb., 1890, to 28 Sept., 1892; Rev. Herman Lillienthal, Apr. 16, 1893, to 30 May, 1900; Rev. Karl Reiland, May, 1901, present incumbent.

In 1877, the number of communicants was 112; the number from the beginning had amounted to 162. The parish is in a more prosperous condition than ever and has erected a conference building or guild-house just north of the church lot; and, during the past year a memorial transcript has been given to the church, by Mrs. Henry Buck, and others.

The Roman Catholic is the fourth denomination in this religious field. The advent of Irish people, mostly laborers, to this place, had introduced the Catholic element to a limited extent, as early, perhaps, as 1850. Those who attended church were in the habit of journeying to St. Patrick's Church, at Hartford; some traveling from Rocky Hill for that purpose. In 1860, St. Peter's Church having been established in the south part of Hartford, the drift of the church-goers became mostly turned in the direction of that edifice, at least to attend masses. This was the usual course until 1876, when, under the direction of Rev. Lawrence Walsh, then the priest in charge of St. Peter's Church—the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was organized in Wethersfield. Masses were said in private houses at first, but very shortly the use of Academy Hall was obtained for the purpose. During Father Lynch's pastorate, a handsome parochial residence was erected; and the church (which previously had been a mission of the East Hartford parish) was incorporated, October, 1876.

In 1880, land having been bought for the purpose several years previously, sufficient funds had been raised to warrant the erection of a house of worship. The project was looked upon with favor by the

citizens generally and many of them contributed toward the cost of it. The result was the modest, but tasteful wooden structure now used, the corner-stone of which was laid October 31st, 1880, by the Rt. Rev. Lawrence McMahon, Bishop of Hartford. The edifice was completed in May, 1881, and dedicated on the 29th of the same month; being 51 years after the dedication of Holy Trinity Church in Hartford, the first Catholic Church in this State. This church promises to endure and flourish prosperously. The following persons have officiated as its pastors: Rev. John F. Lenihan, Oct. 7, 1883, to Aug. 13, 1893; Rev. James J. Smith, Aug. 20 1893, to Aug. 22, 1897; Rev. John T. Lynch, Sept. 5, 1897, to Sept. 16, 1900; Rev. Jeremiah J. Duggan, Sept. 23, 1900, present incumbent. A fine parish-house was erected a few years ago, just east of the church building.

In 1897, a congregation, known as the *Christian Union Church*, was organized, and for about three years held services in the old Academy building, A. J. Culver acting as "pastor." They published a monthly organ, *The Christian Union*, from January, 1898, to February, 1899, inclusive, and soon thereafter the services were discontinued and the "church" disbanded.

The Great Swamp (Kensington) Parish, 1705.—In 1705, the General Assembly authorized the formation of Great Swamp parish, out of that part of Farmington east of the Blow Mountains, and to extend north as far as William Judd's; now in Berlin and New Britain. On Christian Lane, just over the then west line of Wethersfield—a meeting house was built, probably in 1709, for this parish. William Blinn, of Wethersfield, was the builder; and its first minister, the Rev. William Burnham, was from Wethersfield. He was settled in 1712. In 1715, Beckley Quarter, in Wethersfield, was annexed to this parish; and, on the other hand, Stanley Quarter, in Farmington, was annexed to the West (Newington) Society of Wethersfield. In 1721, the name of the parish was changed to Kensington. In 1733, the meeting house on Christian Lane was abandoned for a new one, built by the constable and a committee under an order of the General Assembly, after a long and furious contest as to the site; the new site being in what is now Kensington Village. This led to the division of the parish, in 1754, and as a result, New Britain parish was at that time formed and made to include Stanley Quarter. Again, in 1772, Kensington parish was aparted and the eastern division, which included the Wethersfield and Middletown sections of Kensington—was named Worthington. This latter was enlarged, in 1794, by the addition of a

section from the south end of Newington. The Rev. Samuel Goodrich, son of Rev. Elizur Goodrich, first preached in it; but the Rev. Nathan Fenn was its first *settled* minister.

In 1774, Worthington parish built a meeting house; placing one-half of it on land in Wethersfield, at Beckley's Quarter, on a ten-rod highway, laid out by Wethersfield, in 1717. It was next to the Middletown north line. In 1778, Wethersfield released its interest in a tract of 5ac. 2r. and 10 rods of land in this highway, to Worthington parish, for the benefit of this church. In 1831, this building was converted to a town hall, for Berlin; a new church edifice having been completed in its stead. And so ends our account of the ecclesiastical out-growths from the ancient and lonely meeting house in Christian Lane.

We here append the Inscriptions of the *Christian Lane Burial Ground*, furnished us by the courtesy of Mr. E. S. TILLOTSON, of Wethersfield, and which are not included in his valuable *Wethersfield Inscriptions*; having been copied by him after the publication of that volume.

["CHRISTIAN LANE" CEMETERY.—Originally "Great Swamp Parish," Farmington, now "Kensington Parish," Berlin.

Henry, son Capt. John & Ruth Allyn, d. June 27, 1774, Æ. 2 yrs. & 4 mos. Daniel Andrus, d. Aug. 21, 1748, Æ. 75. Moses, son of Moses & Lydia Andrus, d. Nov. 30, 1753, Æ. 1. Barbara, wife George Arthur, d. April 4, 1861, Æ. 29. Barbara, dau. George & Barbara Arthur, d. Sept. 28, 1861, Æ. 6 mos.

Mary, wife Lieut. Joseph Beckley, d. April 16, 1750, Æ. 48. Robert Booth, d. Dec. 17, 1750, Æ. 60. Doreas, wife Timothy Bronson, d. April 30, 1747, Æ. 42. Samuel Bronson, d. Jan. 23, 1741-2, Æ. 76. Sarah, wife Samuel Bronson, d. Oct. 25, 1741, Æ. 75. Hannah, wife Rev. Wm. Burnham, d. Mch. 16, 1747/8, Æ. 63. Ruth, wife Josiah Burnham, d. June 28, 1762, Æ. 38. Ruth, relict Capt. Wm. Burnham, d. June 28, 1786, Æ. 75. Sarah, dau. Rev. Wm. Burnham, d. Nov. 23, 1726, Æ. 7. Rev. William Burnham, First Pastor of the Church at Kensington (Berlin), d. Sept. 23, 1750, in the 66th year of his age, and 38th of his ministry. Capt. Wm. Burnham, d. March 12, 1748-9, Æ. 41.

Elizabeth, dau. John Cole, d. Oct. 17, 1743, Æ. 5. Elizabeth, wife Nathaniel Cole, d. June 19, 1749, Æ. 71. Ezekiel, son John Cole, d. Sept. 28, 1743, Æ. 1. Nathaniel Cole, d. June 20, 1743, Æ. 65. Sarah, wife of Nathaniel Cole, d. Oct. 10, 1751, Æ. 34. Giles Colvin, d. Mch. 31, 1815, Æ. 34. Carpenter, son of Giles & Nancy Colvin, d. July 8, 1817, Æ. 7.

Dinah, wife of Jacob Deming, d. Oct. 3, 1751, *Æ.* 69. Gideon, son of Joseph & Martha Deming, d. Nov. 10, 1748, *Æ.* 4 yrs. & 6 mos. Martha, wife of Joseph Deming, d. Nov. 26, 1748, *Æ.* 32. Moses Deming, d. Jan. 16, 1795, *Æ.* 74 yrs. & 4 mos. Sarah Deming, d. Dec. 25, 1809, *Æ.* 83. Lucy, dau. of Daniel Dewey, d. Oct. 22, 1748; *Æ.* 5 yrs. & 11 mos. Rhoda, dau. of Daniel Dewey, d. Oct. 15, 1748, *Æ.* 11 yrs. & 10 mos.

Abel Ellis, d. July 3, 1816, *Æ.* 60. Thankful, relict of Abel Ellis, d. Jan. 27, 1829, *Æ.* 76.

Anne, wife of Samuel Galpin, d. Aug. 26, 1743, *Æ.* 55. Joseph, son of Samuel & Anne Galpin, d. Aug. 31, 1743, *Æ.* 18. Mary, dau. of Samuel & Anne Galpin, d. Nov. 5, 1742, *Æ.* 15. Mercy, dau. of Ensign Samuel & Anne Galpin, d. Dec. 1, 1742, *Æ.* 15. Adelaide, dau. of William & Emily Gilbert, b. Aug. 23, 1861; d. Feb. 3, 1875. Bathsheba J., dau. of Hooker & Candace Gilbert, d. July 26, 1807, *Æ.* 22. Candace Gilbert, widow of Solomon Churchill, d. June 9, 1835, *Æ.* 45. Bathsheba, dau. of Moses & Renea Gilbert, d. Sept. 5, 1823, *Æ.* 8. Caroline, wife of Aaron B. Gilbert, d. Sept. 18, 1854, *Æ.* 34. Chloe S. Gilbert, d. March 13, 1867, *Æ.* 78. David S. Gilbert, d. Nov. 23, 1864, *Æ.* 64. Almira, wife of David S. Gilbert, d. Dec. 5, 1856, *Æ.* 55. George, son of Samuel H. & Lois Gilbert, d. Sept. 27, 1828, *Æ.* 3. Hooker Gilbert, d. Dec. 6, 1840, *Æ.* 89. Candace Sage, 1st wife of Hooker Gilbert, d. May 15, 1805, *Æ.* 51. Idell Gilbert, d. Dec. 11, 1885, *Æ.* 23. Joseph Gilbert, d. May 8, 1784, *Æ.* 26. Mary, wife of Joseph Gilbert, d. April 25, 1859, *Æ.* 98. Miss Lydia, only "offspring" of Joseph & Mary Gilbert, d. Oct. 4, 1802, *Æ.* 19 yrs. & 10 mos. Maria S. Gilbert, d. July 21, 1893, *Æ.* 81. Moses Gilbert, b. March 7, 1793; d. Aug. 30, 1882. Renea Steele, wife of Moses Gilbert, 2nd, d. Feb. 28, 1862, *Æ.* 68. Samuel H. Gilbert, d. July 30, 1868, *Æ.* 81. Lois, wife of Samuel H. Gilbert, d. Sept. 20, 1870, *Æ.* 81. Sarah, wife of Hooker Gilbert, d. Dec. 4, 1840, *Æ.* 79. Walter, son of Moses 2d & Renea Gilbert, d. July 20, 1825, *Æ.* 7. John Goodrich, b. May 19, 1776; d. May 6, 1858. John Goodrich, d. April 26, 1816, *Æ.* 79. Hannah, wife of John Goodrich, d. Sept. 15, 1812, *Æ.* 72. John Goodrich, d. May 6, 1858, *Æ.* 82. Martha H., dau. John & Ruth Goodrich, d. Sept. 7, 1823, *Æ.* 5. Ruth Beckley, wife John Goodrich, d. Jan. 16, 1849, *Æ.* 71.

Asahel, son Samuel Hart, d. Oct. —, 1730(?), *Æ.* 10. Judah, son Judah Hart, d. Nov. 3, 1745, *Æ.* 8. Lois, dau. Matthew Hart, d. Oct. 11, 1736, *Æ.* 6. Mary, wife Dea. Thomas Hart, d. Oct. —, 1763, *Æ.*

82. Mary, wife Selah Hart, Esq., d. Jan. 27, 1763, *Æ.* 30. Matthew, son of Capt. John Hart, d. Oct. 3, 1736, *Æ.* 37. Mercy, dau. T. Hart, d. Nov. 8, 1726, *Æ.* 3. Ruth, dau. Matthew & Sarah Hart, d. Jan. 5, 1741, *Æ.* 14. Elizabeth, only dau. Dea. Ebenezer & Elizabeth Hart, d. Nov. 5, 1776, *Æ.* 20 yrs. and 5 mos.

Mary W., wife Horace Haskell, and dau. John and Ruth Goodrich, d. Jan. 2, 1834, *Æ.* 26. Infant, son Mary W. and Horace Haskell, d. Oct. & d. Dec. 18, 1833. John, son John & Elizabeth, Hinsdale, d. Oct. 13, 1743, *Æ.* 9. John C. Hoeckh, d. Aug. 9, 1867, *Æ.* 64 yrs. & 9 mos. Catherine, wife John C. Hoeckh, d. Feb. 10, 1872, *Æ.* 73. John Hooker, Esq., d. Aug. 3, 1766, *Æ.* 71 yrs. & 5 mos. Lydia, dau Samuel, Jr., & Sarah Hooker, d. March 16, 1774, *Æ.* 9. Mary, wife Samuel Hooker, d. Mch. 9, 1771, *Æ.* 82. Samuel Hooker, d. Mch. 1, 1787, *Æ.* 91. Samuel Hooker, d. Mch. 27, 1807, *Æ.* 81. Sarah, widow Samuel Hooker, d. May 7, 1809, *Æ.* 76. Sarah, youngest dau. Samuel & Sarah Hooker, & wife of Hooker Gilbert, d. ———. Seth Hooker, d. Dec. 10, 1758, *Æ.* 27. Bildad, son Samuel & Sarah Hurlbut, d. Oct. 28, 1741, *Æ.* 4. Jesse, son Samuel & Sarah Hurlbut, d. Nov. 13, (?) 1741, *Æ.* 2.

Elizabeth, wife of Lieut. Samuel Lankton, d. Oct. 11, 1750, *Æ.* 50. Dea. Jonathan Lee, d. Jan. 16, 1758, *Æ.* 71. Capt. Stephen Lee, "One of y^e First Settlers of y^e society & Chure" of Christ in Kensington," d. June 7, 1753, *Æ.* 86. Louis, son Paul & Magdalen Leppert, d. Feb. 12, 1873, *Æ.* 10 mos. Magdalen, wife Paul Leppert, d. Sept. 7, 1896, *Æ.* 65 yrs., 1 month, 16 days. Paul Leppert, d. Sept. 16, 1884, *Æ.* 63 yrs. William, son Paul & Magdalen Leppert, d. Jan. 16, 1874, *Æ.* 16 yrs. 3 mos.

Ann, wife John, Norton, d. Sept. 12, 1752, *Æ.* 64. Gideon Norton, d. Mch. 26, 1742, *Æ.* 28. Ens. Isaac Norton, d. Sept. 4, 1751, *Æ.* 38. John Norton, d. Sept. 11, 1752, *Æ.* 69. Rebecca, wife Charles Norton, d. Mch. 5, 1748, *Æ.* 34.

Dr. Abel Peck, d. Sept. 19, 1742, *Æ.* 24. Abigail, wife Samuel Peck, d. Oct. 28, 1742, *Æ.* 61. Rhoda, dau. Moses Peck, d. April 3, 1734, *Æ.* 3 mos. Sybil Porter, dau. Amos & Sybil Porter, d. Aug. 30, 1741, *Æ.* 2 yrs. 6 mos.

Ambrose, son Amos & Orpha Root, d. Mch. 14, 1848, *Æ.* 13 yrs. 6 mos. 17 days. Henry J., son of Amos & Orpha Root, b. Mch. 7, & d. Dec. 28, 1849. Asabel Root, d. Aug. 7, 1833, *Æ.* 40; "His father Asabel, grandfather John, & his great-grandfather John Root rest near this spot." George, son John & Mary Root, d. Dec. 25, 1803, *Æ.* 14 mos. George Root, b. May 15, 1805; d. Oct. 22, 1831. John

Root, d. Nov. 16, 1764, Æ. 79. John Root, b. April 4, 1764; d. Aug. 27, 1827. Joseph Root, d. Oct. 15, 1742, Æ. 55(?). Joseph, son Joseph Root, d. May 29, 1748, Æ. 27. Margaret, wife John Root, d. Æ. 60. Mary, wife John Root, d. Sept. 18, 1823, Æ. 54. Samuel, son Joseph Root, d. Oct. 17, 1747, Æ. 31. Timothy Root, d. Jan. 10, 1864, Æ. 54.

Benoni Sage, d. Jan. 12, 1733-4, Æ. 30. Stephen Saulter, d. May 7, 1892, Æ. 76 yrs. 3 mos. Maria Dorothea, wife Stephen Saulter, d. Aug. 18, 1857, Æ. 27. Katharina, 2d wife of Stephen Saulter, d. July 17, 1872, Æ. 36 yrs. 5 mos. Samuel Smith, d. April 30, 1735, Æ. 60. John Stanley, d. Sept. 8, 1748, Æ. 65. Mary, widow John Stanley, d. Aug., 17, 1752, Æ. 62. Eleanor, eldest dau. Luke & Sarah Stebbins, d. May 4, 1771, Æ. 14 yrs. & 9 mos. Erected by her great-grandfather, Samuel Thompson. Sarah wife Luke Stebbins, d. Feb. 18, 1764, Æ. 26 yrs. 9 mos.

Samuel Thompson, d. Nov. (?) 25, 1773, Æ. 84. Stephen Thompson, d. Mch. 13, 1737, Æ. 10.

Dr. Nathaniel Winchil, d. Feb. 21, 1768, Æ. 41.—*H. R. S.*]

The *Stepney* and *Newington* Churches, offshoots of the First Church of Wethersfield, have their histories fully given in the chapters on *Rocky Hill* and *Newington*, in this volume.

CHAPTER XIV.

Agriculture—Horses and Cattle—Stock Breeding—Fairs, Etc., Etc.

[By SHERMAN W. ADAMS, Esq.]

THERE ARE indications that John Oldham, the Discoverer, sowed wheat, or rye, in Wethersfield, in 1634. After his murder, in July, 1636, the General Court directed John Raynor to preserve Mr. Oldham's "corne" (grain) "as he hath hitherto done." From this, it appears that Raynor had looked after Oldham's grain the previous season (which is reasonable, in view of the fact that Oldham was a mariner) and, if so, it is nearly certain that Oldham had harvested a crop in 1635, which must have been sown during the previous autumn.

Maize (Indian corn), and "*Indian Beans*," of the low sort, sown broadcast in the fields were probably indigenous and were found cultivated by the Indians at the time of the white man's arrival here. These beans were what we know as *Kidney Beans* (*Phascolus Vulgaris*), not, as some have supposed, the *Seiva* bean of to-day. In the Pequot Campaign, May 1637, Wethersfield was required by the General Court to furnish "1 bushel of Indian Beans" to the Commissary department, which is the first mention of beans, of any kind, in our Colonial Records. At a meeting of the Meadow Proprietors, 12 Oct., 1719, a by-law was passed, fining those who did not clear off *smut* from Indian corn in the meadows, in the sum of 2s.—W. T., Vol. II.

Barley was grown here within the memory of persons now living. Its earliest mention in connection with the town is in a Town-vote, 16 March, 1646, providing that Richard Belden should receive one-fourth of his pay, as Town-herder, in "barley." Probably it was mostly used in making malt, for the manufacture of beer, then an article of general consumption. In the Rev. Henry Smith's inventory, 1648, his "maulte" (quantity not stated) was appraised at £2, 8s. Malt seems to have been made soon after 1640.

Peas were one of the staple crops from the beginning of the settlement.

The Onion, as is well known, has been a staple crop here for very many years; the "Wethersfield Large Red" being recognized as a dis-

tinctive and favorite variety. As early as 1710, Benjamin Adams sold 71 bushels of these bulbs to Dr. James Poisson. In later years some experiments have been made in the culture of the "top onion," whose small bulbs grow at the top of the flower stalk; also, with the "potato onion," the bulbs of which are held together at the roots. Neither of these have proven profitable. "Rare-ripes" are the smallest, culled from the first year's growth, and set the *next season*; when, by breaking off the seed stalks, they are made to ripen early and are largely increased in size. The practice has been to bunch the onion for the market, on ropes of straw; the bunches weighing from 2 to 2½ pounds each. Of late years, a large proportion of the largest onions, have been shipped in barrels, being sold by the bushel. Nearly all are sent to the New York market; and the culture of the crop was once done mainly by women and boys, but the spectacle of women in the onion fields, is now an unusual sight. The Rev. Samuel Peters, the unveracious author of a (satirical) *History of Connecticut* (London, 1781), says: "It is a rule with parents to buy, annually, a silk gown for each daughter above the age of seven years, till she is married. The young beauty is obliged, in return, to weed a patch of onions with her own hands." This is about as true as his other statement that the township is ten miles square (making it to contain, at that time, about 100 square miles, instead of 36), and that "the people are more gay than polite."¹

Closely connected with onion culture, is that of the *garlic*, which member of the leek family has been cultivated in Wethersfield for many years. The product is shipped to New York, whence it is nearly all exported to the West Indies and South America. The bulbs are bunched by the roots, instead of the tops, as is the case with onions; the ropes weighing about a pound each.

Broom Corn (introduced into America, in 1781, by Dr. Benjamin Franklin, who found a single seed in a whisk made perhaps in the East Indies, where the plant is native) was early cultivated here. It was a Wethersfield man, LEVI DICKINSON of Stepney parish, who in 1797, is said to have made the first broom from this plant; Indian or *splint* brooms having been previously used, indeed as late as 1800, The shape of the new *corn* broom was, at first, round like that of the old "birch broom." Dickinson's manufacture was probably commenced at Hadley, Mass., whither he had removed, although it may have been before he left Wethersfield; and as he commenced to cultivate the plant at the same time, and made frequent visits to his native town,

¹ As to the onion culture, see also Chapter XIX, on Rocky Hill.

it is quite likely that broom corn culture was introduced into Wethersfield at about the same time. It soon became an important industry here and in other Connecticut Valley towns. In 1845, three establishments at Rocky Hill manufactured 5,500 brooms; and large crops were grown here as late as 25 years ago—the manufacture being now extended to whisks and brushes. In 1859, Arnold & Robbins at Rocky Hill were engaged in this manufacture.

Teasels were probably cultivated here from near the early part of the present century—soon after cloth-dressing became an important industry of the town—but their use and sale were not confined to the local “clothiers;” for woolen mills in various parts of the State became a market for these natural wool-cards.

Flax-seed, in the last century, was also extensively raised in Weth. In the *Life and Works of John Adams*, Vol. II, p. 341-342, we find the following note by the President. “At Hartford, 15 Aug., 1774, Mr. Deane [Silas] says: “There are 30,000 bushels of flax-seed sent to New York yearly, in exchange for salt.”

Apples. JOHN HOLLISTER's will, Apl. 3d, 1665, gives to his oldest son John, his “feather Bed at Nayog;” also, to his widow, “20 bushels Apples and 2 barrels Cider per year, to be furnished by my son John.” John Harrison's estate, inventoried Aug. 3, 1666, included apples, and hops, value £5.

The raising of *Garden Seeds* was commenced by JAMES LOCKWOOD BELDEN, in 1830, and still continues to be an important industry in the town. Butler N. Strong & Co., Johnson, Robbins & Co. (both firms now no longer in business); Comstock, Ferre & Co.; Thomas Griswold & Co., and William Meggatt have been the most notable firms in this line. Hart, Welles & Co. are a later addition to the Wethersfield firms engaged in this business.

WM. G. COMSTOCK, though not a native of Weth. was, for a part of his life, so identified by residence and business interests with the town, as to deserve a notice in connection with the seed business. Born at Chatham, Ct., 11 Oct., 1810, he was the son of Judge Franklin G. Comstock author of a well-known *Digest on the Settlement of Estates*; lived at C. until 10 years of age, when his father rem. to E. Hampton, Ct.; was educated at Midd. and when about 18, began school teaching. In 1833, the family removed to Htrfd. where his father had become part owner and editor of the *N. Eng. Review*, and, as exchange editor and bookkeeper, young Comstock displayed much energy and enterprise in the conduct of his father's paper. Just previous to this time his father became greatly interested in the raising of mulberry trees for

the culture of cocoons for silk, and turned his interest in the newspaper over to his son. In 1836, after having sold out the paper to be run as a whig political organ, the family moved from Hartford to Wetherfield, and Mr. Comstock joined his father in the cocoon business. In 1837 Mr. Comstock published what was known as the *Silk Culturist* and dealt in mulberry seeds and trees. The following year he bought out the seed business of James L. Belden of Wetherfield and took in Butler N. Strong of East Hampton as partner, the business being done under Mr. Comstock's name. In the winter of that year he went to Cuba, taking with him a lot of young mulberry trees.

He purchased a plot of ground at Matanzas and set out the young trees. He found two other men in the same business, and the three shared the profits. One man, a Spaniard, accepted an offer of \$500 for his entire lot of trees. Mr. Comstock shipped them to his father, who sold them for \$2,500. Upon his return from Cuba Mr. Comstock continued to deal in the seeds and trees, but in a short time started in the business of making "borders" for seed bags, which at that time was a new invention. He also, with his father, went into the business of making seed-boxes, and continued it until his father's death, when the business was divided and a stock company organized. In the mulberry tree and seed business Mr. Comstock was able to amass what in those days was considered a large fortune. The capital stock of the company was \$40,000. There were three stockholders and Mr. Comstock lent the money to the other two. The company had a large trade in the South, and soon extended its agencies to the West. The stock paid a dividend of 6 per cent. the first year and 10 per cent. every six months afterwards. In 1857, Mr. Comstock went to East Hartford and bought the old Olmsted place on North Main street for \$7,000, after having sold out most of his box stock. He died at E. H., a few years ago, greatly respected. In June, 1839, Mr. S. B. Goodwin had a mulberry plantation of a thousand trees.

Potatoes, and other tubers are grown here in great abundance.

Carrots are mostly sown and grown with onions. Market gardening is carried on somewhat extensively. *Melons* are not grown to any great extent; the *pumpkin* is still common.

Among the *wild* fruits and plants may be mentioned: the large grapes, of the meadows; fox grapes; the choke pear; the meadow plum (now quite scarce); the wild cherry and choke cherry; the barberry (introduced as a hedge-plant); the black currant; the Jerusalem artichoke; asparagus (probably naturalized); and nearly all the wild fruits and nuts found in other parts of the State.

Nearly all the cultivated fruits found in this latitude are grown in Wethersfield. Some of the mulberry (*morus multicaulis*) trees, planted in the days when the silkworm fever was raging, some 68 years ago—still remain.

The safflower, spikeweed, comfrey, opium-poppy, smallage, rue, wormwood, coriander, thyme, and other plants, which formerly were found in many gardens, have pretty generally disappeared.

Horses, Cattle, etc. John Oldham, who was killed in July, 1636, had several. He had sold "two of the mares" to Mr. Thos. Allyn, and the General Court ordered Daniel Finch, then constable at Wethersfield, who, by their order, was collecting together the property and effects of the deceased, to deliver them to Allyn. Probably Oldham's were the first brought into the Colony, in 1634. Some were carried away by the Indians, in the massacre at Wethersfield, in 1637. Three belonging to Leonard Chester's estate, in 1648, were appraised at £27, but two of them were colts. The same year, a horse and mare, property of the Rev. Henry Smith, were appraised at £23.

In 1684, a by-law of the Town punished any person *racing* a horse, "within the townc plott," by a fine of 10s.

Abraham Finch, when killed in 1637, had a cow appraised at £20, and a heifer appraised at £10. It is probable that the pioneers of 1634 brought cows and pigs with them. Indeed, it is probable that all the three River plantations had cattle and swine in the fall of 1635. John Brundish, who died in 1639, had one cow, two heifers and two calves; the whole appraised at £55.

On March 16, 1646-7, the date of the oldest town vote which has been preserved—the town voted to employ Rich. Belden to keep *twelve score* of cows and oxen, at £24: and 2s. for each animal in excess of that number; which shows that cattle were abundant at that date. No doubt the number of young animals was much greater than that of the cows and oxen. Matthew Mitchell's "cow-pen" formed a much debated point of evidence in the famous case of Hollister and Dr. Gershom Bulkeley vs. John Belden's heirs in 1684-5.—See Chapter IV, p. 191.

Cattle Ear Marks. These were first required by the law of 1644, but may have been in fact used earlier. The law directed that they be put upon cattle and swine above six months old: the reason being that the cattle of different owners were kept in herds on the "stated commons" and the swine ran together in the woods. Each owner had a particular mark, prescribed by the town, and recorded in the town records. The marks consisted of a "crop," a "slit," a "half-penny," a "swallow-tail," or a "hole," cut in one or both ears, or sometimes a combination of two

of these forms of amputation for the same animal. The same mark was registered for swine as for cattle of the same owner.

These ear-marks were kept in use down to recent times; but, owing probably to the difficulty of contriving new forms of them, the usage in our day is to mark by forming the initials of the owner in the hair of the left hip of the animal, by trimming with shears; or to brand the initials on the horns of the neat cattle.

Brander, (of Horses). Such an officer was chosen annually by the town, beginning with 1665, the year in which the law was passed creating the office. The same Act provided that the brand-mark for Weth. should be the letter W. The object was to have a mark which should distinguish the horses which were pastured in herds on "stated commons" in one town, from those similarly herded in other towns.

The brand-mark for Hartford was the letter A; for Middletown B; for Windsor, I; for Farmington, X. These letters were branded on the near buttock of the animal; and in addition to this the initial letter of the surname of the owner was sometimes branded on the near shoulder.

Herders and Cowkeepers. These officers were chosen in town meeting. The earliest vote preserved, that of March 16th, 1646-47, is one appointing Richard Belden to have the care of 12 score of cows and oxen from the middle of April to the 11th of November. He was to be paid £24 per annum, to be in wheat, barley, peas and Indian corn; one fourth in value of each.

In May, 1648, four persons were chosen to keep the "towne heard." They were called "cowkeepers." They were to be paid £39 in the aggregate, "within a fourteen nights after Mickeltid." They were authorized to have the assistance of one man on Sundays; and on every alternate Sunday they might employ two assistants. They were to guard the cattle "from danger of wolves, or any other casseltic." During three weeks in the season a hundred of the cattle were to be separated from the others, and herded by themselves, "toward Hartford bounds."

Directions are given for getting the herd together. "They are to goe out within an houre after sunrise, and not to[o] early at night in coming home; and after they com to goe into the mea[dow] two of them is constantly to drive downe & to fetch up the cows at night. They are to eather have a horne to call out cows, or els to holow, so that people may have notice sufficient to put out their cattell to them."

In 1656, one herd was kept "towards Hartford, and the other the other way;" that is below the South Field. In 1660, and again in

1662, there was a north and south herd under charge of two "cow-keepers."

[What a vivid picture of the pastoral life of those early days does this simple official record afford us! The sunset hour ("not too early at night"), the sound of the horns, or of the herdsmen's "hallo," coming to the ear from either end of the broad village street, under the shadow of whose ancient trees slowly homeward pace the "milky mothers of the bosky herd," each cow stopping at her master's gate, where the maids awaited them, pails in hand; and soon, instead of herdsmen's horn or voice, there comes from every homestead the musical ring of the lacteal burden thus brought home from the meadows.—*H. R. S.*]

Wolves. These animals were so common as to have been a cause of serious concernment to the farmers. In 1648, the town herders, or "cow-keepers," were particularly enjoined to preserve the cattle "from danger of wolves." In 1676 the town gave a bounty of 12 shillings for each wolf killed, which was in addition to the Colony's bounty of a like sum. In 1685 the town's bounty was reduced to 8 shillings. In 1695 it was raised to 10s. In that year the County Court ordered judgment for Luke Hill to recover 48 shillings from the Selectmen of Glastonbury, for 8 wolves killed by him. In 1698 it was raised to 15s. In 1703 the bounty was voted to be according "as the law directs;" which probably means that the liberal bounties paid had resulted in materially reducing the number of wolves. It was not until some years after the settlement of the town that sheep were introduced; hence, at first, the damage done by wolves was not so great; seeing that only cattle, and perhaps the goats—were the domestic animals destroyed by them.

The wolves were not exterminated entirely. Like the deer and some other fleet-footed wild animals, they departed to the north and west, where their descendants may be found to-day.

Sheep. Owing to the number of wolves in our forests, it is not probable that sheep-raising was so commonly carried on in the earliest years of the settlement as the breeding of other domestic animals. The first account of them in Weth., or indeed in this Colony, is of those comprised in the estate of Edward Mason, deceased, in 1640. In the inventory are "3 ewes, one ewe Kydd, 2 weathers;" all appraised at £8. In no other inventory made prior to 1648, is any mention made of any sheep.

Public "Sheep Pastures," were among the early institutions established by vote in town-meetings. One of a thousand acres was formed

from "the two Huckleberry Hills, and Sleepy Plain," in January, 1674-75. This was in Rocky Hill. Others are mentioned under the head of *Commons*.

Shepherds were also chosen by the Town. When the sheep pasture above mentioned was established, Serj. JOHN KILBOURN and Mr. JOSIAH WILLARD were chosen Shepherds. In March, 1684, it was voted that the town Shepherd be paid by a "Sheep-rate;" the tax to be laid upon the owners of sheep only.

Goats. In the Inventory of the estate of Nathaniel Foote, who died in Weth. 29 Nov., 1644—his Goats were appraised at £3, 15 s. This is the earliest mention I find of these animals in this Colony, excepting four belonging to the estate of Ephraim Huit of Windsor, the same year. These animals appear to have been much more common then than now.

Swine. These were brought into Weth. in 1635. Abraham Finch, who was killed by the Indians in 1637, had four "Shoats," which were inventoried in his estate at £2. John Oldham, in 1636, sold one to Wm. Lewis for £2 16s. They were allowed to run at large and feed in the woods. The General Court, in 1636, at its very first session, provided that the several plantations should "take notice of them and their marks." They were raised in great numbers, and formed an important item of export. When Nathaniel Foote died, in 1644, his "hoggs" were appraised (the number not stated) at £66, about twice as much as his horses. Edward Mason's estate, in 1640, contained twenty-six "borrowe [barrow] hoggs, Stores & Sowes;" and they were valued at £31. Leonard Chester's estate, in 1648, had 26 hogs and 3 sows, appraised at £19 10 s. John Hollister's inventory, April 3, 1665, has "29 small swine;" John Edwards' estate, inventoried Dec. 27, 1664, included 15 hogs; John Stoddard's inventory, 20 Dec., 1664, contained 14 hogs.

It is probable that Mr. Nathaniel Foote, the Settler, was either a very successful raiser of swine, or had procured a superior breed, for, in the directions issued to the several towns as to the supplies to be furnished for the Pequot Exposition, it will be remembered that "the hogg" was especially directed to be procured from him.

Blackbirds. A bounty of 6d per dozen for those killed in spring and 3^d for those killed thereafter, to the end of "Indian Harvest," was voted in April, 1695. In December, the same year, it was increased to 12^d. In 1714, it was voted that the birds destroyed must be *old* ones.

Nothing was said about *crows*; and it may be that "scare-crows" were not so much needed then as later.

Poultry. Wild fowls were so abundant that the breeding of any kind of poultry was not a necessary part of a planter's life. Geese and ducks were numerous on the ponds and streams; and the wild turkeys were abundant for at least a hundred years after the first settlement of the Colony; especially in the northern part of the valley of Conn. river. The estate of Nathaniel Foote, appraised in 1644, contains the earliest mention I find of poultry of any kind. The number and kind of fowls is not stated, but his "poultry" is appraised at £1, which must have represented a considerable flock, probably chickens.

[*Live-Stock Breeding* has, of late years, become an important industry in the town. The "native," or oldest breed of cattle here is supposed to have been of Devon and Hereford origin, mixed. Later, the Durham was introduced from England, and, at present, Wethersfield breeders are importing Ayershire, Jersey, Holstein and Swiss cattle. Mr. SILAS W. ROBBINS of Weth., one of the foremost and most successful breeders of fine stock in the country, commenced in this line in 1859, and has devoted himself more especially to the raising of the finest breed of Jersey cattle, which he justly considers as the most beautiful of all the dairy breeds, and which he has bred now for 43 years, with such rare good judgment and success in developing the highest beauty of type, color and form, as well as milking capacity, that his herds—(especially the "Coomassies"—with their rich golden or high fawn color, their lovely heads and placid eyes, and rich milk records)—are eagerly sought for by owners of the best herds all over the U. S. even to the Pacific slope. Stock-breeding has been a passion with Mr. Robbins, whose love of the beautiful shows itself in his dwelling, the works of art with which it is adorned, and the majestic trees and well kept lawns which surround it. Much of his livestock has been directly imported from the Island of Jersey, at a lavish expense: and he has also extended his breeding operations to Cotswold, South Devon, Leicester and Shropshire Down sheep to Shropshire and Berkshire pigs, and to pheasants. Mr. Robbins, previous to his present hobby, was a most successful seedsman, and as an accomplished florist he has taken many prizes. Recently, however, he has sold his "Coomassies" and retired from the business of stock-raising.

Bees. Honey seems to have been a more important article of food before the introduction of sugar than since. The Bees belonging to the estate of LEONARD CHESTER and the Rev. HENRY SMITH, both of whom died in 1648—were appraised at eight pounds in each case. In 1650 JAMES BOOSEY's inventory included "11 skipp of bees" appraised at

£9. This was at a time when cows were worth five pounds each, and horses about £12. Perhaps much of it was used in making metheglin.

Tobacco. This plant was grown in Connecticut as early as 1640, at which time there were but four or five cleared settlements. The General Court, in June of that year, forbade the *drinking* of any excepting that which was "planted within these libertyes;" so it is by no means a modern crop in Wethersfield. Wethersfield at present produces a large amount of the finest "seed-leaf"—and considerable "Cuban" tobacco.

In Wethersfield, in 1704, the quantity raised must have been sufficient to enable large amounts to be exported (it being one of the principle articles of trade with the West Indies); for it was the occasion of a town vote which prohibited people from fencing "tobacco yards, or gardens," in any "streets, highways, town-land or common," and authorized the selectmen to remove such encroachment.

Timber. The preservation of the forests was a matter of public concern, two hundred years ago. Under certain regulations, inhabitants of the township were allowed to go to the public commons and carry thence wood and stone for private use, but not to sell the same. In 1686 it was voted that when a person had felled trees, and had failed to "cut them up" within 3 months, any other person might go and take them for his own use. In 1693, a penalty of 10 shillings was imposed upon an "inhabitant" for each tree he should *transport* outside of town limits; and non-inhabitants were subjected to the same penalty for each tree *felled* by them. In 1698, the by-law provided a penalty of 10 shillings for every load of "building-timber, staves, firewood, or any sort of timber whatsoever," transported from the township. In 1706, a vote recites that much timber has been taken from the commons to "build vessels for persons which belong to other Townes;" whereby timber was becoming scarce "for building houses and making fences." A penalty of 10 shillings was therefore imposed upon each trespasser, excepting where the vessel to be built was for some inhabitant of the Town. The timber mostly in demand was white oak, which was used for the clapboards, as well as the frames of houses, and for pipestaves, etc. Chestnut was used as timber, and for lathing; the latter being thin boards, with numerous splits or clefts, for the mortar to penetrate. Candlewood (pine), was used for lumber, fuel and torches; the latter use being that to which it owed its name.

The old Griswold house, in Griswoldville, which was demolished in 1879, and which stood on the corner of the late Franklin W. Griswold's

home lot, was covered with white oak clapboards, which were rived (split), and not sawed.

Woods. Special care was taken to preserve the forests from destruction. It was necessary, of course, to clear some of the land of trees, for agricultural purposes. In April, 1666, Serg. John Kilbourn was employed by the town to "burne the woods betwene us and Middletowne;" and Enoch Buck was at the same time employed to "burne the woods belonging to the other end of the Towne;" each to have six shillings "for his paines." But in 1705 the devastation of timber trees had become so great that a by-law was passed providing a penalty of ten shillings per tree for all "young" trees felled upon the Town lands; this prohibition to continue so long as the "old wood allredy fallen" was sufficient to supply the fuel for the households of the Town. "Young trees" included those having trunks of one foot or less in diameter.

Drainage. Many of the lands in Wethersfield were so low and wet as to require drains and sewers. Something on this head has been said under the title "Ditches."

As early as May, 1712, Capt. Robert Welles, Capt. Joshua Robbins, and others, petitioned for a "Commission of Sewers," to drain a tract of lands of which the petitioners owned a "major part." The Governor and Council chose said Welles and Robbins, and Lieut. Jonathan Belden, as such a commission.

In August, 1726, David Goodrich, Stephen Mix "and five others" petitioned the General Assembly for a "Commission of Sewers," for draining their lands, which lay in the tract enclosed by High street, Sandy lane and what is now Prison street. Such a commission was granted, consisting of Thos. Wright, John Curtis and Elizur Goodrich. It was in this year that the Town first took action in draining the "Great Swamp," which resulted in the formation of Folly brook.

In June, 1761, James Mitchell, Sam. Wolcott and Silas Loomis were appointed commissioners to drain "the Wet Swamp, extending from the third highway, running east and west from the dividing line between Hartford and Wethersfield, until it comes to said line." This will be recognized as the swamp next west of Wolcott hill, and north of the present Churchill, or Collier road.

At the same session, upon the petition of Josiah Welles, Sam. Wolcott, Elisha Wolcott, Joseph Richards, Timothy Hurlburt and the heirs of William Rhodes—a commission consisting of Joseph Richards and Josiah Welles, was appointed to drain about forty acres of Gooseberry Swamp. This was in the lower end of Hog meadows, near the section sometimes called Gooseberry, or Rhodes quarter.

In June, 1771, upon the petition of Will. Warner, John Chester, Silas Deane, Nich. Ayrault, Jonath Welles "and many others"—Sam. Bishop, James Pierpont and Moses Gilbert were chosen commissioners to drain Fearful Swamp. In September, 1786, upon the petition of John Chester, Josiah Robbins, Justus Riley "and many others"—Josiah Robbins, Appleton Robbins and Justus Riley were chosen commissioners, to drain Fearful Swamp, by a ditch *across* it, to the river. This was probably the action which resulted in the sewer of planks along the north side of the Causeway road.

In May, 1828, George Stillman, Josiah W. Bristol, James Smith and others, petitioned for a commission, to drain the swamp extending South from the Pratt's Ferry road "to the crossway," about one mile. Justus Riley, Asher Robbins and Edward Shepherd were chosen. The land-owners were empowered to choose a collector, and a scavenger.

In most of these cases the drainage was effected by open ditches.

Ditches. It is obvious that in the early years of the town, ditches, for drainage purposes, were found to be quite sufficient. And when the "Palisado" was built, the row of upright palings of timbers were set in the ridge formed by a ditch excavated at the same time; leaving the ditch on the outside.

When Edward Wood, about 1640, sold his homestead, a little east of where the meeting house stood, to George Wyllys, Esq., of Hartford, it was bounded west by a "common" (meeting-house square), and a "three-way lete in the middle of the town." A "lete," more correctly *leat*, is a ditch or trench; and it thus appears that the Green by the meeting-house (a much larger space than it is to-day), was traversed by ditches.

In April, 1651, John Harrison, Thomas Wright, John Saddler, John Stoddard and John Goodrich—who owned lots in the section bounded by High St., Fort (now Prison) St. and Sandy lane—executed a written agreement, wherein they say that their "house lots are surrounded every winter and spring with water," so that they "could not have any profit in the middle of their lots." They therefore agree that these lots shall be ditched; the expense to be borne by themselves exclusive of Stoddard, whose lot is "hie and dry," but has to be traversed by the ditch in question.

In a town vote of April, 1695, the ditches by the Great Meadow gate are mentioned. Others will be referred to under the title "Swamps," and "Drainage."

Weeds in Highways. As early as 1653, the by-laws provided that land owners should cut down the elders, briars and weeds in front of

their lands, where such vegetation should "pedjince [prejudice] the highway." Alders were particularly mentioned as to be thus dealt with. The cutting was to be done "half across the street," by the opposite owners, and the work to be done between the 25th days of March and June. But most of the streets were then, in fact, what they were sometimes called—merely "paths" through the wilderness.

Fences. It is probable that the expensive and cumbrous structures, so common in our day, were not generally tolerated, as between small enclosures in the earliest days of the Colony; and it is an evidence of progress that recently many of these needless barricades have been removed by the consent of the interested parties.

Around common fields, fences were more necessary and as early as 1649, the townsmen [selectmen] were authorized by the town to prescribe the kind of fence, and the proportion thereof which each land owner should maintain. The General Court, in 1643, had provided that from five to seven men be chosen annually in each town to attend to the matter of inspecting fences of common fields; and it is probable that such officers were chosen by the "proprietors," and that prior to 1649, they had attended to such duties. But neither selectmen nor fence viewers had power to compel the fencing of land in severalty at this time.

In 1650 the "Code of Laws" provided certain regulations for divisional fences. But it was at the same time provided that no man should "bee lyable to satisfy for damage done in any ground *not* sufficiently fenced," except what should be done by swine under a year old, or by unruly cattle, or by voluntary trespasses. The *kind* of fence was not stated. In 1684 the town voted that all fence "belonging to the town," should be 4 ft. 2 in. high; whilst hedges should have 5 stakes to the rod, and be well bound at the top. (See *fence viewers*.)

Hedges. Our ancestors came from a country where hedges were more common than fences; and it is probable that barriers of this kind were in early times commonly in use here. In 1684 a by-law of the town provided that all hedges should have five stakes to the rod, and be well bound at the top. What trees were used does not appear; but the barberry, introduced from England, was very commonly used.

Fence Viewers. The law of February, 1645-4, required the several Towns to appoint such officers, to the number of five at least, in each Town. Their duties were much more important then than to-day, since there were many miles of *common*, or public fences, to be looked after; and great numbers of cattle and swine were allowed to be at large, upon the common and undivided lands. Until 1660, it appears that they were

chosen by the selectmen. In Feb. 1660-1, the Town chose John Nott and John Riley "to survey the fence for this year;" and fence viewers thereafter, usually two in number, were generally chosen. At a later period an additional one was chosen for the east side of the River, and one for Rocky Hill.

In March, 1660, by vote of the Town, there was a general apportionment of the Meadow fence among the land owners, of which there were then 89 in all.

Gates. These were maintained not only at the approaches to the "Meadows," or common fields, as at present, but at the entrances to stated commons, and certain highways. The "meadow gate" and "plain gates" are mentioned in a town vote of 1652. The only meadow then improved and allotted to private owners was the "Great" meadow; and there were three gates belonging to it. One of these was near what is now the Point of Rocks, by the Cove; another on the road now leading to the wharf, and the third one on what is now called the Pratt's Ferry road. With the disappearance of a large part of the northeast section of this meadow, the northernmost gate was discontinued. Other gates to the meadows have been established, and their positions changed in some cases; but an account of these changes will not be attempted here.

In March, 1698-9, the town authorized gates to be set up "at the end of some of the highways, about the west end of the long lots." The Long lots (1½ miles long) had their western terminus near the summit of the ridge next west of Wolcott hill, and the great common adjoined them on the west. The gates in question must have been across what are now known as Jordan lane, Nott's lane and the road through Welles' quarter.

Bridges. The "Old Bridge at Goff's brooke" was ordered repaired in 1680. It was probably built about 1650. A "cart bridge," over "the brook over the way leading out of the towne, towards Ben. Crane's house," was ordered built in 1683-4. This was on the road connecting Broad St. with Mud Lane; and the stream was much larger then than now. A new bridge was ordered for Goffe's brook in 1712.

Fairs. Under this head are not included the special fairs and festivals of the present day. These are too numerous and unimportant to receive special mention. But Fairs, in the old and European sense, have been held in Wethersfield.

At its May session, 1783, the General Assembly authorized the holding a "Public Mart, or Fair" in Wethersfield, twice per year; once in May, and once in September or October. They were to be

of three day's continuance and the buildings, etc., were to be constructed at the expense of the Town.

In October, 1784, the "Civil Authority and Selectmen" of the Town convened and established a lengthy series of "By-laws and Regulations" for the "Public Fair or Mart." A "Court of Wardens" was instituted; to be a "Court of Record." Its judges were a Senior Warden and two Junior Wardens. Also a Register and two Constables were provided. Each constable was to be furnished with "a black staff, as a badge of his office," and was empowered to seize offenders "without warrant," and bring them before the Court of Wardens. Licenses, fines and tolls were granted or imposed. Eight wards were established, within which the following named articles might be sold respectively: No. 1, Dry Goods; No. 2, West India goods and Liquors; No. 3, Lumber; No. 4, Iron, Steel, Brass, Pewter, Tin and Lead; No. 5, Grain of all kinds; No. 6, Flax-seed and Salt; No. 7, Horses; No. 8, Neat Cattle. Stephen Mix Mitchell was Chairman of the Board.

In the *Conn. Courant*, for Oct. 26th, 1784, is an account of the Fair held on the three days ending October 13th. It says that: "A great quantity of Dry and West India Goods, as well as country manufactures, together with horses, neat cattle, sheep and swine were sold or bartered in the Fair." "This concourse of people was very great. Some laid out to the amount of a thousand dollars in the Fair," etc. A similar Fair was held in the following Spring, and again in April, 1786, as we learn from an advertisement of a postponement of its opening on account of the Fast; but it is probable that few more were held, and that they took place in Broad Street. It is certain that the institution did not become permanent, and that very few were chartered for other towns in the state.

CHAPTER XV.

Public and Semi-Public Works, Institutions, Etc.—Mills—Manufactories—Various Industries—Societies—Population—Physicians Etc., Etc.

[BY SHERMAN W. ADAMS, ESQ.]

THE ESTABLISHMENT and care, by Town action, of Highways, Commons, Cemeteries, River Landings, Ferries, Wharves, etc., etc., will be found recorded and discussed in other chapters of this volume; but there is a class of public works, originated or fostered by private enterprise, either individual or corporate, which demand some attention at our hands. These latter may be termed *semi-public* undertakings.

The Town House.—In 1679, the Town voted to build “a small house, on the parsonage home lot, for a “house of office” and some other uses. This stood on the site occupied within our memory by Dr. E. F. Cooke’s dwelling; and appears to have been the only office for business purposes which the Town has ever owned. The Meeting House was practically used as a Hall down to a period within the memory of those now living; and the Town Hall of the present day is in the second story of the Academy building, which was erected in 1798.

The Workhouse in Wethersfield was established, in 1811, by Special Act of the Legislature—two years before the passage of the law of 1813, authorizing each town to establish such an institution. Prior to this time, except in a few special cases, the workhouses of Connecticut were County institutions; generally a part of the County jail. The Act of 1813, referred to, termed these houses for the poor “Asylums.” But it had been the usage for some towns, certainly for Wethersfield, to have such houses built at the public expense—in some highway, or other land belonging to the Town—so that their location is not now discoverable by records. One was in Newington parish; for, in 1787, the Town authorized, by vote, the building of an “addition” to it, and paid Martin Kellogg £23, 9*d.* for doing the work.

After 1813, the general usage was to hire a building for the purpose. Thomas Chester’s tannery, on the east side of Broad St., was first hired; after that, the Crane tannery in “Egypt” (demolished some years ago) was hired for the same purpose.

In March, 1838, the Town purchased from William Harmer for \$4,600, the Rose Place, with its old dwelling house, on the south side of Pratt's Ferry road—the tract contained 34 acres, and included part of the old Burnham estate. The old house was converted into an "almshouse and workhouse" and served its purpose until 1850, when the present structure was erected on the same site; and in 1862, was enlarged.

State Prison.—This institution was in the caverns of the abandoned copper mines, at Simsbury (the part now East Granby), for 54 years, beginning with 1773. It was then called Newgate. In May, 1827, mainly through the instrumentality of Judge Martin Welles, a resident of Wethersfield—the General Assembly established it, under the name of "The Connecticut State Prison," at this place. The site selected was land which had been in the family of Gov. Tho. Welles since 1643, but which at first belonged to John Plumb. The building containing the cells was of the red sandstone of the Portland, Conn., quarries; whilst the workshops were of brick. The outer walls of the prison-yard were of the same sandstone. Enlargements and alterations have been from time to time made to the original structure; the principal of which have been the addition of the hospital, chaplain's house and sundry out-buildings; and adding another story to the main building, or prison proper—making a four-story structure of it.

The transfer of the convicts from Newgate to the Prison was effected Sept. 29th, 1827; at which time the number incarcerated was 127. The average number during 1884 was 235, the number of inmates to-day is larger, but the exact figures are not at hand. The commandant of the establishment is called the Warden.

Several tragedies have been enacted within the Prison walls. Ezra Hoskins, a guard, aged 66, was murdered by convicts, on the night of April 30th, 1833. Gerald Toole, a life-convict, early in 1862, murdered the then Warden, Daniel Webster. Dave Kentley, *alias* James Wilson, etc., a native of Ireland, and a noted criminal, in 1870, assassinated the Warden, William Willard. In order to cheat the gallows of its work, the murderer thrust a piece of iron wire, three inches in length, *into his own heart*, until it was buried so deeply it could not be reached to be extracted by the fingers. The effort at suicide was a failure; and though rendered so weak as to require support on the gallows platform, he was hanged, in the corridor of the jail at Hartford, in accordance with the sentence of execution. An effort to starve himself had been equally unsuccessful; the purpose having been thwarted by injection of food sufficient to sustain life.



THE CONNECTICUT STATE PRISON—WETHERSFIELD.



THE GREEN—WETHERSFIELD.



A VIEW ACROSS THE GREEN.

By Courtesy of The Connecticut Magazine.

Fire Companies.—With one exception, (Stratford) Wethersfield had the first *chartered* Fire Company in the State. [Previous to this; it is evident that Wethersfield had some sort of a fire-fighting organization (perhaps, though, nothing better than a "bucket brigade") for the *Records of the Ecclesiastical Society*, note the vote (Dec., 1801) of the sum of \$200 to be raised by said Society, and "added to the subscription for a fire-engine."] At the May Session, 1803, upon the petition of the Hon. Stephen Mix Mitchell and others, an organization of sixteen men was authorized by the Legislature. In their petition the applicants say that they have already procured two fire-engines. But the machines of that day were force-pumps of small dimension, compared with modern appliances for the same purpose. [That these engines were so procured seems to be evidenced by a vote of the Ecclesiastical Society, in 1808, directing the Foreman of the Fire Co., to procure hose for *each* of the engines. March 22, 1827, the Ecclesiastical Society voted that "the *Civil Authority*, and the Society's Committee enlist and organize a fire company, and enact suitable By-Laws for the prevention and extinguishment of fire, under a Resolve of the General Assembly of 1803; and the First Ecclesiastical Society seems at this time to have transferred their right and title to all share in the Fire Department to the First School Society.]

How long the company continued active is uncertain; but it is probable that it was not efficient at the time of the noted conflagration, on the east side of High street. in 1831. For, in May, 1834, there was found a necessity for a new Fire Company; then incorporated, upon the petition of James Smith, Abraham Skaats, George Stillman, Jun., Charles Shepard and others. They were organized as "The Wethersfield Fire Company;" the number of members being 25. This company purchased the engine "Neptune No. 1" of a Hartford fire company. It also had a fire-hook, ladders, hose, buckets and other appliances, which were kept in the basement of the Congregational chapel. In 1840, the Legislature authorized the complement of members to be increased to ten. This Company has been practically extinct for 20 years, or more. Its engine went to pieces about 1872, when the building that had sheltered it was demolished. Since that time, a hook and ladder company has been formed and still exists—being housed in the building formerly the car-house of the Horse Railroad Company.

Drainage Companies in Weth. have been from time to time authorized by the Legislature, as follows: 1712—to drain swamp west of Wolcott Hill; 1726, to drain lands south and west of present Prison St.; and in the same year the "Great Swamp," west of "the Folly" was drained

ly being diverted from its southern outflow to a new channel across the road to the River—hence originated the “Folly Brook;” by the same agency, the “West Swamp,” west of Wolcott Hill, was drained in 1761; and also, by Acts of Legislature at the same session, “Gooseberry Swamp” and “Hog Meadows.” In 1771 and 1786, “Fearful Swamp” was drained; and in 1828 the tract between Pratt’s Ferry Road and the Causeway. In 1890 the majority of owners of lands abutting upon Fearful Swamp, petitioned the Legislature to authorize the formation of a company “The Fearful Swamp Drainage Co.” to drain said swamp.

Dams exist, or have existed, on Collier, Tando’s, Sucker, or Mill, Hang-Dog and Goffe’s Brooks—all in Wethersfield proper. Also on Piper’s River, in Newington; Mattabesett River, in Beekley’s Quarter, and in Dividend, Hog, Frog and other brooks in Rocky Hill.

Of these, that at Hang-Dog (now the “Reservoir” at Griswoldville) was first formed in 1716, across the southern outflow of Deming’s meadows—for the purpose of storing water for Chester’s Mill. In or about 1830, the dyck was raised and strengthened by Thomas (Sen.) and Thomas (Jr.) Griswold in order to supply water for their fulling mill, the water being drawn across by a trench made for that purpose. The remains of the dam were to be seen (1884) in the pasture S. W. of Capt. Williams’ factory.

The dam on Sucker (or Mill) Brook (remains of which are still visible) was probably the *first* built in Connecticut, and was made to furnish power to Mr. Leonard Chester’s grist mill, built in 1637. It is located a few rods below the dam of the present (disused) Adams’ grist mill, on the same stream. See, also, p. 638.

Turnpike Roads. These were first regulated by general enactments in 1806. But before that date many had been specially authorized in the State.

The first Turnpike through Wethersfield was that of the Hartford and New Haven Turnpike Co., chartered in October, 1798. The charter was granted to the Hon. James Hillhouse, of New Haven, and his associates. It was laid out in a very nearly straight line from the west side of South Green, in Hartford, to Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven. Its northernmost gate was a few rods south of the north line of Wethersfield; the old toll-house still standing on land lately of Sam. Hillhouse, deceased. The road was set with a row of Lombardy poplars on each side, and some of these picturesque trees remain to this day. In 1815, an alteration in the New Haven end of the road required the removal of the dwelling house of the said James Hillhouse.

The next, and only other Turnpike to cross Wethersfield, was that of

the Middlesex Turnpike Co., chartered in 1802. The charter was granted to Epaphroditus Champion, Nehemiah Hubbard, Jonathan O. Moseley and others; and by its terms the northern end of the road began at the south side of Goffe's Brook (now in Rocky Hill), while the southern terminus was at "the Stage road, in Saybrook." There were four gates on the road; the most northern one being just north of the present dividing line between Rocky Hill and Cromwell. Both these turnpikes have ceased to exist as such; the latter in 1872.

Transportation—Stages, Etc.—Wagons were used for the carriage of travelers many years before stage coaches were employed. Open wagons were succeeded by canvas-topped ones. Stage coaches were introduced in England, for carrying the mails, in 1784; and it is probable that their introduction here was but very little later.

The first transportation line in Connecticut, having public recognition as such, was that granted by the Legislature to Capt. John Munson, of New Haven, in October, 1717. He was granted the exclusive right "to set up a wagon to pass and transport passengers and goods between Hartford and New Haven," for the term of seven years. He was required to make at least one trip per month (excepting in December, January, February and March); and each round trip was to be accomplished within a week's time! The route lay through Wethersfield center, Hang-Dog, West Rocky Hill and Beckley's Quarter; by what was then called the New Haven road; but to-day, Wethersfield people call it the Berlin road. This was the great highway between the two capitals until the construction of the Hartford and New Haven Turnpike, in 1798-9. It was also on the "Post-road," between Boston and New York.

A mail stage-route existed for many years, until 1850 or later, through Wethersfield, Rocky Hill and Middletown, from Hartford to New Haven. Afterward, it became a Hartford and Durham, and then a Hartford and Middletown line; continuing its daily trip until the opening of the Connecticut Valley R. R., in 1871. James M. Vibberts was the last proprietor of this line. An omnibus line, between Hartford and Wethersfield, making tri-daily trips, existed from about 1852, until the opening of the H. and W. Horse Railroad, in 1862-3. John N. and Ira M. Standish were the last who owned this line. A stage to Rocky Hill (part of the time to Durham) was run by Mr. H. Webb, from 1860 to 1868.—(See *Railroads*.)

Railroads.—The first railway station within Wethersfield township was at Newington, in 1839, on the "Hartford and New Haven Rail-

road," as it was then called, chartered in 1833. At that time there was no depot in Newington; nor, indeed, till 18—. The next station was also in Newington, in 1850; on the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad, chartered in 1847. In 1871, a station was established, with depot at Wethersfield, just west of the village; a new highway being made to reach the same. In 1872, a station and depot was established on the same road (the Hartford and Conn. Valley, R. R.) at South Wethersfield. That at Rocky Hill was established in 1871, the year the road was opened. The road was incorporated in 1868; Mr. S. W. Robbins being the only charter member from Wethersfield.

Horse Railroad.—The Hartford and Wethersfield Horse R. R. Co. opened its road, to a point a few rods below its present (1884) terminus, in 1862. Its cars first ran on May 27th, 1863. It was incorporated in 1859, with a capital stock of \$100,000. Of the six charter members named, two, Silas W. Robbins and Henry C. Dwight, were from Wethersfield. In 1864, Capt. Daniel A. Mills, Gen. James T. Pratt and others, of Rocky Hill, were incorporated as the Rocky Hill and Wethersfield Horse R. R. Co. Nothing was done under this charter.

September 8, 1888, the Wethersfield street car line was operated by electricity under the storage battery system, which proved unsatisfactory, and the Westinghouse system was introduced. This was one of the first electric lines in the country. The continuation through Main Street, Hartford, not equipped till May 12, 1895; cars ran thither for first time, 27th of that month. The trolley has since been extended to the lower end of Broad Street.

Postoffices; Postmasters.—Neither the Colony, nor the State of Connecticut, ever exercised jurisdiction over mail matters or post-routes. Until 1775, all such matters were under the control and direction of the British Government; which appointed a postmaster for New England, having his office in Boston; and whose "deputies" rode from town to town, on horseback, bearing the mails. The principal route from Boston to New York lay through New London; which place, by Act of Parliament, was made the chief postoffice in Connecticut, in 1710. In 1774, some of the mails were carried by private enterprise, through the agency of Wm. Goddard, of Baltimore. Benjamin Franklin, who had been Postmaster for New England since 1752, was, in 1775, made Postmaster-General, by the Continental Congress. At this time the mails were generally transported by post-horses.

In 1790, there were but 75 postoffices in the United States. In 1880, the number had increased to 42,989. The number in Connecticut in 1790, was nine, viz.: New London, Hartford, Middletown, New Ha-

ven, Norwich, Fairfield, Stamford, Stratford and Norwalk. In 1880, the number was 450.

The postoffice was established at Wethersfield, 1st April, 1794; THOMAS CHESTER was the first postmaster. He lived in the Silas Deane house; next south of the Webb house; in 1799, LEVI BUTLER was postmaster. The postoffice at Rocky Hill dates from October 1st, 1802; the first postmaster having been ISAIAH BUTLER. That at Newington was established 12 February, 1828, with AMOS FAIRCHILD for its first postmaster. That at South Wethersfield was established in April, 1873; LYMAN HEWITT, postmaster. A neighborhood supply was established at Griswoldville, a few years since.

Water Supply.—The Town has none of its own. About 15 or 20 years ago, a supply was introduced from the West Hartford Water Works, which furnishes water down Hartford Avenue to the State Prison, and down State and High Streets (North Main) to the Episcopal church. A Wethersfield Water Company, incorporated by the Legislature of 1901, has, as yet, effected nothing beyond a survey from the so-called "reservoir" at Griswoldville.

Gas and Electric Lighting Facilities.—The Hartford gas mains extend down Hartford Avenue, nearly to Wilcox Street, for private use. The State Prison used its own gasoline tank until about 1895, when it was replaced by *electricity* from Hartford. The village, since the 6th of August, 1899, has been, more or less, fairly lighted by a few 15-candle power incandescents transmitted from the same source.

Telegraph and Telephone.—Telegraphic communication has existed at the railroad station since the opening of the Hartford & Valley R. R. in 1871. The village has also been well served by *telephone* since the early days of that useful invention, until, at present, there are a number in the town, public and private.

Insurance Company.—Among the earliest Fire Insurance Companies in this State, on the *mutual* plan, was that chartered in 1830, under the name of the "Wethersfield Mutual Fire Ins. Co." The charter members were: Jacob Warner, Elisha Williams, Henry Welles, Steph. Francis, Hosea Harris, Sam. Coleman, Simeon Hale, Will. Willard, Dan. Russell, Tho. Warner, James Treat, Hen. Deming, John B. Alden, James Griswold, Ashbel Robertson, Steph. B. Goodwin, Welles Adams, Asher Robbins, Tho. Havens, Sam. Galpin, Abr. Crane, Allyn Smith, Ichabod Crittenden, Geo. Rhodes, David Crane, Will. A. Havens, Hen. Robbins, Elisha Robbins, Will. Adams, Simeon Blinn, Horace Adams, James Barrett, Will. Adams, Jun., John S. Riley, Steph. Willard, Abr. Skaats, Moses Morris, Jalon Dickinson, Eben Stillman, Davis Morris, Martin

Welles, Geo. Holmes, John Palmer, Will. Talcott and Will. W. Goodrich. All these people have joined that "great majority who are no longer in the land of the living." I am not in possession of data which will enable me to give an account of the doings of this now defunct corporation.

MILLS—MANUFACTORIES—INDUSTRIES.—Under this head we can record nothing of great magnitude, since Wethersfield has always been and is an agricultural community, and her streams furnish but a limited supply of water-power for the propulsion of machinery.

Grist Mills.—The first mills in the Colony were known as "Corne Mills;" the word "corn" being used to express the modern term "grain" in general. In some of them water, but more often the wind, was employed as the motive power. These grist mills were so much a public necessity that the towns frequently assisted in maintaining them.

To Wethersfield, probably, belongs the distinction of having possessed the *first* grist mill in the Colony. It was built on what is now known as "Sucker" or "Mill" brook by that earnest and accomplished young gentleman, one of the settlers of 1633, Leonard Chester. It was whilst seeking out a place to set up this mill, in 1636, as is supposed, that Chester lost his way in the wilderness, and, after several day's search, was found, nearly dead, on the eminence which thereafter bore the name of Mount Lamentation.—See Chapter I.

Dr. Stiles, in his *History of Windsor*, supposes that town to have had the first mill; but he does not attempt to fix the date when it was built. He says it was "resorted to" by people of other towns, "even from Middletown." This is obviously a mistake, since Middletown was not settled till 1650-1; prior to which there was a mill at Hartford, as well as at Wethersfield.

Fortunately, there is no difficulty in fixing the year in which Chester's mill was built. Mr. Chester's first will, dated 22d Nov., 1637, is recorded in a volume in the office of the Secretary of State, at Hartford. In that instrument, he devises to his son John, "that mill, and the appurtenances thereto belonging, w^{ch} I am in building, at the devising of these presents, in the town and libberty of Wethersfield." So that we have 1637 as the date when the mill was set up.

The mill-stream was, as it still is, essentially a surface-water stream. Excepting near its source, and that of its tributary, Collier brook, living springs contributed but little to its volume of flow. But the volume was probably more steady, when its watershed was covered by forests, than to-day.

The building stood about a mile southwest of Chester's house, which was in Broad Street. Its site was very near that of the former (now disused) mill of Russell and William W. Adams; and they owned the land on which the mill stood; their mill being the third (perhaps the fourth) in the series of grist mills which have existed on the same mill privilege. The dam was a few rods below that of the present grist mill, where its remains are still to be seen.

What are believed to be the mill-stones of Chester's mill, may still be seen, chipped and broken, by the side of the ruins of the second (or third?) mill, on this tract. They are of a coarse red sand stone, full of hard gravel and pebbles, and probably were never as good for the purpose, as the mill-stones of to-day. Several other sets of millstones, some made by cementing fragments of stone together—may be seen at the same place.

It was propelled by water, probably having an overshot wheel. It is doubtful whether it contained a bolting mill, few mills had them at first. Bolting was done by hand power, by other persons than millers.

The highway, from the lower end of Broad Street, over South Hill, was, for many years, called, in the record, "the Path to the Mill." Mr. Chester's tract of land at the mill contained about 100 acres.

Mr. Chester died in December, 1648. In September, of that year, NATHANIEL DICKINSON, the town clerk, and JOHN COULTMAN, the town "schoolmaster," had, as it seems, contracted to purchase the mill. Whereupon, September 22d, 1648, the town voted to assist Dickinson & Coultman in said purchase, by giving them five pounds toward the purchase money, and ten pounds to be expended in repairing it. Coultman had been an employe of Mr. Chester, whose wid. in her will devised to him a token of her regard.¹

Whether these parties actually bought the mill at this time, does not appear. In October, 1660, it belonged to JOHN STODDARD; but no deed of transfer to either of the parties mentioned above, appears of record. On October 25th, 1660, the town voted to purchase, of said Stoddard, "his mill, wth the land and the appurtenances thereto," for the sum of 27 pounds. In the following December, the town voted to release the mill to Stoddard; and also chose Thomas Hurlburt and Hugh Welles to go from house to house, to solicit one day's labor from each inhabitant, to assist in repairing it. In January, 1662, Stoddard conveyed the mill, with twenty acres of land, to Mr. JOHN CHESTER, son of Leon-

¹ See Wyman's *Charlestown (Mass.) Genealogies and Estates*, II. 830. "To Servant John Coultman of Weth. she bequeathed a silver cup, marked *M. I. D.*, and a silver plate with Chester arms"—date of prob. 1 Oct., 1689. *Middlesex Prob.* VIII.

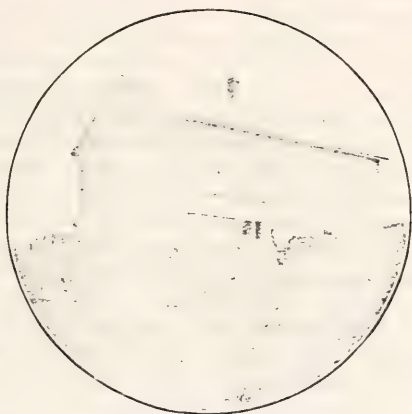
ard, deceased. The tract was bounded northerly and westerly by land of the said Chester; easterly by a highway; southerly by "common" land. This shows, plainly, that "Stoddard's mill" was the one built by Leonard Chester.

Capt. Chester, who had paid Stoddard 27 pounds for the mill, at once sold a one-third interest therein, to Coultman, for 9 pounds. As Dickinson had in the meantime removed to Hadley, Mass., it is not probable that he took any part of the mill; although he furnished Coultman with the money wherewith the latter paid for *his* share.

Capt. Chester died in 1698, and the mill, or at least his two-thirds interest in it, descended to his son, Maj. JOHN CHESTER. The latter died in 1711, and his widow, Hannah (Talcott) was the next possessor of it. In March, 1716, ELIPHALET DICKINSON and WILLIAM BLIN were the lessees of "Madame Hannah Chester's Mill." As such, they then petitioned the town for liberty to overflow Deming's Meadows (now the Reservoir tract), and to divert other streams to assist the flow of the principal one.¹ Their petition was granted. At this time, and since about 1697, Zachariah Seymour's fulling mill, southwest of Chester's lot, was getting the benefit of the same stream. Oct. 7, 1760, AMASA ADAMS bought one-fourth part of the mill from Thos. Curtis, and 3 Jan., 1769, another quarter from Roger Riley of Kensington and Justus Riley of Wethersfield, *Weth. Recs.*, XIV, 359; in *Mch.*, 1772, Amasa conveyed one-fourth part to his son John, and May 15, 1782, a quarter to his son Joseph. In May, 1781, the mill (or a portion of it) passed from PETER BURNHAM to JOHN MARSH. A new mill building was erected in 1797, and the present one in 1862, originally on Mill Hill, until removed, about ten years ago, to its present location. Whenever a new mill structure has been erected, it has never been many rods from the old one; and the mill since Amasa Adams and his sons owned it, has been known as "The Adams Mill." [Since S. W. A. wrote the above, Messrs. Smith & Farmer purchased the Adams Mill and moved it to a few rods west of its original site. A new dam was erected to the east of the Chester dam, new buildings were added and a large cider and grist business carried on. Recently, the mill passed into the hands of Mr. Theron Welles of Wethersfield.

Dividend or Bulkeley mill was probably the next grist mill set up in Wethersfield.

¹The overflow was by the sunken side of the meadows, where the dike was then built; the stream leading therefrom being then known as Hang-Dog brook. This flooded section of the old Deming's meadow is now known as the Griswoldville Reservoir, and an overflow from the N. E. side to divert its water into Collier brook was made about fifty years ago.



THE OLD ADAMS' MILL.



AN OLD FISH-HOUSE ON THE COVE.

As early as June 5th, 1661, the town had given to "M^r. JOHN WINTHROP, our Hon^r. Govern^r., and to his heirs forever, Deident brook," with "sufficient" land for mills and dams; as also "what wood he pleses, or stones, within one mile of Deident line, in our bounds."¹ The gift was upon the condition that the Governor should erect one or more mills thereon; but no time was limited within which he must build. In point of fact, the Governor, although invited to take up his residence at Hartford, continued to reside at Pequet (New London), and never complied with the terms of the donation. Accordingly, in June, 1668, he released the tract to the town, at the same time "advising and desiering the townesmen (selectmen) to take care that there may be a convenient highway appointed and reserved, from the Great River up into the woods." In February, 1677, the town was informed that Mr. GERSHOM BULKELEY, their new minister, "was minded to build a corne mill at Dividend," gave him "liberty to make a mill pond" on the common land of the town, at that place. Bulkeley had previously been given a tract of 140 acres, at the same place; it was laid out by Capt. Sam. Welles, Serg. John Nott and Hugh Welles.

That Mr. Bulkeley built a mill at once, is shown by a vote of Nov. 17th, 1678; wherein Serg. John Kilbourn, Mr. Eleazer Kimberly, Serg. John Denning and Ens. Hugh Welles were directed to lay out to him 150 of land, additional to his former grants, "joining to his land, in his present possession, *by his mill*."² They were also directed to lay out a highway, "from Middletown road, about Jn^r Taylor's house, to Mr. Bulkeley's mill; and another one, 20 rods wide, "from the north end of Josiah Gilbert's land, to runn from the Great river to the other way mentioned."

A mill has been maintained here until about 1880 or '86, but the Bulkeley mill, about 1830, was converted into an edge-tool factory. Bones and gypsum have also been ground in most of these mills.³

¹ June 5th, 1661. Towne Meeting. "It was voted and granted by the Town to Mr. John Winthrop, our Honor Governr," and to his heirs and for ever. Derident brook [Dividend brook], and sofesee [sufficient] land to build upon, both mells and dames; and also all the land that shall hapen to be flowed with the watter of his mell or mells ponds; and also liberty to take what wood he pleses, or Staves, within one mile of Deident line, in our bounds; with this p^rvico [proviso], and it is all wayes p^rvided, that if the said Hon^rr Governr Winthrop doe buld mell or mells, acoring to his p^rosition made to the Towne, that than this grant to be confermed and setteled upon the said Winthrop and his heirs for ever; or else to be void and of non efet" [none effect.] *Weth. Town Votes*, I, p. 71.

² *Weth. Town Votes*, I, p. 155. Sept. 2d, 1680.

³ The Rev. Gershom Bulkeley was given thirty acres of land, "where it will be most commodious for him, and least damage to the Towne."

Sawmills were not in use, even in England, until about 1660; and it is said that the opposition to their use was so great that one set up there, by a Dutchman, in 1663, had to be abandoned.

In the early days of the Colony, timber was sawn in saw-pits. A long saw was worked, by two men; the "top-sawyer" standing upon the timber, and the "pitman" in a pit beneath it. Sawing was done in this way within the memory of people now living, at the ship-yard, at the Cove.

Clapboards, and most of the lumber, was *rived*, or split out, with axes and wedges. When the Thomas Griswold house, in Griswoldville, was demolished about thirty years ago, it was found that the oldest clapboards were rived, and of white oak.

It is probable that the first sawmill in Wethersfield was built by THOMAS HARRISS, of Hartford. In October, 1667, the General Court granted him forty acres of land, east of the three-mile lots, on a stream in what is now the northwest corner of Eastbury—with liberty to build a "Sawe Mill" thereon. That it was built within the two years required by the conditions of the grant, is evident from the fact that in May, 1669, the same Court gave Joseph Bull and John Ridwell, Jr., 200 acres of land, "in the commons, next to the place *where there saw mill stands;*" and Dr. Chapin (*Glastonbury Centennial*) says that they had this mill by assignment from Harriss. It should be said that at that time the land in question was not within the limits of any township; but the extension of Wethersfield bounds five miles further east, in 1672, brought it within Wethersfield bounds. This sawmill was on the south side of "Saw-mill River, commonly called Hoccanum River," near "Spar-mill Swamp."

The *next sawmill* in the township was at *Pipe-stave swamp*, in what is now Newington. This swamp was so called because of the great number of staves split out at that place for pipes and hogsheds. On the 25th of October, 1677, the town granted to Emanuel Buck, John Riley, Samuel Boardman and Joseph Riley, all of the village of Wethersfield—twenty acres of land, each, "about Pipe-stave swamp" (in Newington), with "sufficient ponding," condition that they build a sawmill thereon, "before the last of September next." They were also given liberty to take timber from the common lands. They were to sell boards at five shillings per hundred [feet?], and "slit-work" by "the rule of proportion." This was when the lumber was delivered at the house of the purchaser; at the mill, the price was four shillings per hundred. Should the town see cause, sawing was to cease at the end of twelve years. The land was laid out by Hugh Welles, Serg.

John Nott, Serg. John Deming and Joseph Edwards. The mill was built very soon thereafter, as it is mentioned in a town vote of March, 1680, when Buck was granted 30 acres more "at the saw-mill."

West Farms.—This name was given in 1708, and perhaps earlier, to that section of what is now Newington between the Mile-in-Breadth and Cedar Mountain; or, more accurately, between the Half-Mile Common and said mountain. The west section of Stepney parish was at one time given the same name, by Rocky Hill people.

West Division.—This term, as well as "West Farms," was sometimes used to include all, or nearly all, the tract which later became Newington parish. It seems to have included Cow Plain and the Mile-in-Breadth.

This mill stood on the west side of what afterward became the Joseph Andrews' farm; now, or lately Martin Kellogg's. The road leading from Wethersfield, across Hog Meadow, through what is now Welles' Quarter, to the "west farms," was for many years called the "Saw-mill Path," a name first appearing in the record, in 1683. In September, 1702, the mill became the property of said Andrews. He (whose name was anciently written "Andrus.") was a son of John Andrus, one of the early settlers of Farmington. He had bought the two Rileys' lands, in March, 1684; and in September of that year, the town of Wethersfield gave him "a small piece" of land near it, on which, it is believed, he built the first dwelling house in Newington.

In the *Andrews' Memorial* this sawmill is erroneously mentioned as belonging to Joseph Andrews in 1684. Andrews bought it of Phineas Wilson's widow, in 1702; Wilson being a Hartford man, who seems to have got the mill by foreclosure of mortgages given by the owners aforesaid; the "ponding" and privilege being *joint* property of the Rileys, Buck and Boardman. This mill seems to have given to that part of Newington which was taken up after the sawmill was put in operation there the name of "Saw-Mill Farms."

In December, 1713, Joshua Robbins, Jr., Eliphalet Dickinson and Ebenezer Dickinson, united in a petition to the Town, wherein they allege that they have "found a convenient place for a saw-mill, on our commons, viz.: between Tree Plain and Deming's Plain, on the brook between those plains," and they ask for liberty to erect a sawmill there, and "to turn some streams near by said brook." Their request was granted. This site was within the present limits of Rocky Hill, and the subject will be further discussed in the chapter relating to that town.

Between 1755 and 1786, several permits were granted by the Town for the erection of a sawmill at "The Folly," but it does not appear on

record that anything was there effected. One of the busiest sawmills was that built as an annex to the Chester (or Adams) gristmill, about 1820—now discontinued. Ozias Griswold put up one on "Two Stone," or Collier Brook, in Griswoldville, which, about 1815, was demolished to give place to a fulling mill.

Windmills; Windmill Hill.—The wind as a motive power was used for gristmills, long before water was applied to the same purpose. Windmills have been employed for grinding grain, in several places in Wethersfield. One, perhaps more, was on "Windmill Hill;" commonly called to-day, "Wolcott Hill." I suppose it to have been the "mill and grinding stone, farm," etc., mentioned by Rich. Treat, Sen., in his will dated Feb. 13th, 1668-9; in which he devises it to his son James. Mr. Treat's land, on Windmill Hill, was a tract of 139 acres, extending from what is now Tando's Brook, on the east, to the Wilderness, one and one-half miles, on the west. The Wolcott Hill road had not then been laid out; nor was it laid out till 1686. Treat's mill probably stood near the site of the house lately of Robert Robbins' heirs; and there are indications that Capt. Joshua Robbins, in the middle, or latter part of the eighteenth century, had such a mill there.

Windmills have also, within the memory of people now living stood near the River south of the Pratt's Ferry road.

As early as 1659, Josiah Churchill recorded a deed of land which he had bought of Mr. [Charles] Taintor, in the Little West Field on the south side of the present Jordan Lane. The lot was described as bounded west by land (formerly) of Samuel Ireland; and east by the "Mills." Although the outflow of the "Great Swamp" was then southerly and in this vicinity (instead of across the main highway, at The Folly, as at present)—it is not probable that any water mill existed on the Taintor lot, at the date in question. The only plausible explanation of the word "Mills," is that reference was made to *windmills*.

Brick Mills (or kilns) were erected at a very early period in the Town's history. Their remains are to be found in several places in Wethersfield and Rocky Hill. In June, 1653, Matthew Williams employed Samuel Dickinson to assist him in making brick, and paid him therefor 6d. a day "in wampum." D. being then a lad of 16, probably did not receive a man's full wages. JOHN HUNNIWELL, received by Town vote, 25 March, 1680, "liberty to fence in a yard, to make and burn bricks, in some convenient place in the Towne land, on the west side the brook, by Leonard Dix's; and to have the use of it as long as he shall follow the trade of making bricks in that place."—(W. T. V., I, 169.) This, Judge Adams supposes to have been on the west side of

Tando's Brook, near the road going to Wolcott's Hill, and on land now owned by Hon. Silas W. Robbins. The latest kiln worked in Wethersfield, but now abandoned, was that just south of the Folly. In the earlier days brick buildings were not common, and chimneys were sometimes laid up in stone. It is noticeable that, as early as 1685, the size of bricks varied so greatly that the General Court felt it necessary to establish, by law, a uniform size of $9 \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inches—evidently larger than now in present use.

Bricklaying and Stone Cutting, etc.—Dec. 10, 1806, SETH DICKINSON and SAMUEL GALPIN advertise themselves as in this business.

Tanneries.—The tanning and curing of the skins of cattle and goats was an important industry, regulated by law as early as 1640. Farmers generally took the pelts of their slaughtered animals to the local tanneries, and from the hides, they had the boots, shoes and other leathern articles of domestic use, made up as their needs called for. Sheepskins were prepared by "fellmongers"—of whom Samuel Smith, one of the wealthiest men in Wethersfield, was one in 1646. In February, 1672, John Smith, was, by Town vote, admitted an inhabitant, to "set up his trade of tanning in this Town." There have been four or five tanneries in Wethersfield (including Rocky Hill), two of which, Abraham Crane's and that of Justus Riley, on Broad Street (and managed by Daniel Russell) are within the memory of some still living. The *Conn. Courant*, of Nov. 18, 1793, contains Crane's advertisement "for two tanners, and two active lively boys as apprentices." Tanning, indeed, was almost a hereditary occupation in the earlier generations of the Crane family.

Boot and Shoemakers.—[*Ephraim Williams' Account Book*, No. 4, covering period between 1746 and '60, inclusive, is most interesting. He was a descendant of Matthew and Susannah Williams, of Rocky Hill, and the book was long in possession of his great grandson, the late Charles Williams of Rocky Hill. Ephraim was a tanner, currier and shoemaker. He resided in Wethersfield, and must have done a very large business there, in tanning leather, and the making of all kinds of boots and shoes, and in repairing the same. Besides a large local patronage, he had as customers, Nath. Dewey, Johnathan Smith, Abner Moseley, John Holden, John Kimberley, Ruth Hollister, Tho. Matson, Hez. Bidwell, David Hubbard, Sam. Price, Gideon Goodrich, William Fox, Tho. Treat, John Bartlett, David Goodrich and Sam. Goodrich, all of *Glastonbury*; Thos. Stanley, Jun., Josiah Kilbourn, Josiah Hart and Nathan Judd, of *Farmington*; and of persons even farther removed from Wethersfield. His Account Book,

therefore, contains many little "side-lights" upon his neighbors and customers, which do not pertain strictly to his own business-calling, yet are invaluable helps to our understanding of things as they then existed. Thus, we get, incidentally, the information that Col. Chester owned a "sley" (sleigh); that Ezekiel Porter's wife wore "purple shoes;" that William Rhodes wore tow-cloth at 2s. per yard; that Col. Elisha Williams paid £2. 5s. for "scouring the brasses," and "eulering and eyling the tackling of the shase" (chaise), and that he also had a pair of shoes made "for his Pallintine" (undoubtedly a servant, who was one of those Palatine emigrants from the Old World, who came to this country, during the Seventeenth Century); that Col. Chester, in 1748, paid £1-12 for a pair of shoes for "Madam Chester," and the same price for "your Negro Wench's;" that Capt. Josiah Griswold's sword scabbard cost 3s.; and Return Belding's [sword] Belt, 6s.; that Col. Israel Williams, of Hartford, paid £4 for double-channelled pumps, and the same for German pumps, while for a pair of double channelled *boots* he paid £14 (extravagant old gentleman!); that Mrs. Joseph Smith's *red* shoes cost £2. 10s.; and the case for Col. Chester's sword cost 10s.; etc., etc.; while Capt. Jona. Robbins had several pairs of *silk* shoes made for his daughters Mary and Elizabeth, and his son Appleton wore pumps!

Mogasons (Moccasins) made at £1. 5s., each, Mary Warner had them made for her negro.

His customers, many of them, paid "in kind," *i. e.*, in goods and produce of various sorts, and swapped accounts with him, to their mutual satisfaction; as well as to ours, for it was the means of preserving to us the *prices* of various articles.

Thus, Joseph Webb, the merchant, paid in such articles as shalloon, calaminco, spelling books, cotton, hats, etc.: William Rhodes paid in *weaving*, at the following rates, plain cloth, 2s. 6d. per yd.; linen cloth, 2s.; check shirting, 3s.; kersey, 2s. 6d.; woolen blankets, 2s. 6d.; Col. Chester frequently paid in *grain*, "*meslin*" (muslin?), *hides*, *Justice's fees*, etc.; John Robbins, Jr., made in 1752, 58 barrels of cider for Mr. Williams; while (probably for Mr. Williams' use in his own business) Benjamin Trumbull of Hebron made, in one year, 9 dozen of wooden heels for shoes; and David Beadle made "Gloshes" (galoshes) at 15s. pr. pair.

Then this old Account Book gives us the prices of various articles of leather and of work in leather, *viz.*: curing a horse hide, 18s.; curing a dog skin (4 done for Chas. Churchill), 4s. 6d.; sole leather, 8 to 10s. pr. lb.; "Blackening a hide of upper leather, 5s.," wooden heels for girls'

shoes, £1. 6*d.*; a pair of "slick downs" (whatever they may be?), 3*s.*; "leathering pair of speckticles," 4*s.*; a large sheepskin for boy's breeches, 15*s.*; sheepskin for a "pillion," 10*s.*; Men's shoes, 1748, £2-10; in 1755, £3; in 1756, £4; Women's shoes, 1748, £2; skins tanned and cured, £1. 1*s.* or at 15*s.*; curing calf skins, 4*s.*; and one side of upper leather, 10*s.*; making pair of leather breeches, 4*s.* 6*d.*

"Ledger A," of the old firm of Elisha Williams and Co., in Wethersfield, in 1738, gives us the following prices worth noting in connection with subjects treated of in proceeding chapter, viz: Chocolate, 13^s per lb.; oats, 3^s per bushel; turnips, 2/6 per bu.; flax-seed, 7/6 per bushel: onions, 4; wheat 9^s per bushel in 1739; Indian corn, 5 to 9^s per bushel; sugar 11^s per lb. in 1745; tobacco, 6^d per lb.; also 4½^d; Beeswax, 3^s, 10^d per lb.; barley, 3^s, 6^d per bushel; malt from barley, 9^s per bushel; pickled codfish, £16 per barrel; Sea Coal, for blacksmithing, 15^s, 6^d. per bushel.

THOMAS HURLBUT was a shoemaker in Wethersfield from 1758 until his death; JOSEPH FO[R]BES shaved and whitened skins of leather; THOMAS DEMING, currier, advertises sole leather and wants oak bark, 1793; as also does J. GUILL in 1804; SELDEN MINER advertises his commencing business, 4th July, 1805, at twenty rods North the Meeting House, and was still in business in 1813; GOODRICH & HARRISON, JOSEPH S. BOARDMAN, HENRY NEWBURY were shoe dealers in 1826; L. HART in 1829; MERRITT BUTLER, 1832; JOHN H. WEBBER, 1838.—*H. R. S.*]

Blacksmiths.—A "smithy" was, in early times, a much more important establishment than now. Until a comparatively recent date, not only were axes, chisels, spades and other tools wrought by hand, at the blacksmith's forge and anvil; but even nails, spikes, bolts, etc., were made in like manner. Even slitting-mills (for preparing nail-rods and other iron bars) were unknown in Connecticut until 1716. Among the earliest blacksmiths in Wethersfield were HENRY BUCK and THOMAS HURLBUT. To the former, the Town in 1658, gave a piece of land for his shop. It was on the common near the present Cove, and a house was given him at the same time.—*W. T. V.*, I, 74.

In later times, we find the names of the following blacksmiths and iron-workers: ————Stevenson, mentioned in Oct., 1764. Stephen Mygate, 1815; William Goodrich, Sept., 1790, made marlin-spikes, bolts, crowbars, nails and repairs for the schooner *Recovery*; Joseph Blinn and Thaddens Stoddard in June, 1803, dissolved partnership; Daniel Belden, 1750.

Charcoal until the introduction of "sea coals," some sixty years ago, was the only fuel used for the blacksmith's forge. Although no coals are now made in Wethersfield, the time has been when the business of burning them was a considerable industry. The earliest mention I find of them is under date of 13 Dec., 1677, when "Goodman [Thomas] Hurlburt's "cole kill" is incidentally referred to, in designating a boundary line of William Clark's home lot.¹ The coal-pit, as we would now call it—was near the brook, on the east side; at the rear, or west end of Hurlburt's home lot, which was on the west side of the road then called Bell lane; now the south end of Main Street. I suppose it was because of the number of coal-pits there, that Collier Swamp received its name, as early, at least, as 1705.

Pipe-staves.—The manufacture of these was one of the chief industries of our early history. The General Court, in 1641, provided that the timber therefor should not "be fallen within three myles of the Matabezeke river;" which stream, at that time, was largely within Wethersfield bounds. It also required the staves to be 4 ft. 4 in. long, 4 in. wide, at least, and one inch thick. The timber used was mostly oak, and the staves and heads were put into bundles, or "shooks," and shipped to the West Indies, and other foreign ports: there to be used for pipes and casks, for rum, molasses, sugar, etc. They were largely exported from Connecticut, down to late in the last century. They were split or "rived," and not sawn.

In June, 1641, Wethersfield was allowed to export 30,000 pipe-staves, and Hartford and Windsor 20,000 each. In 1677, the name "Pipestave Swamp," in the north central part of what is now Newington, appears in the records, as a self-explaining title for a considerable section, near the center of which a sawmill was, at about that time, established.

Many of these staves were gotten out from timber growing on the common lands of the Town; which led to the passage of by-laws for the preservation of the Town's timber. In 1695, Joseph and Benjamin Churchill got out a quantity of staves, which were seized and confiscated by the Town; but were afterwards magnanimously released. In the following year, 5,000 were taken from Thomas Wickham; but released, on the ground that Wickham supposed he had cut the timber within Middletown bounds.

Pipestaves were required by law to be 4 feet 4 inches long, 4 inches wide, and half an inch, at least, in thickness; to be inspected by a person chosen by the town.

¹ *Weth. Town Votes*, I, p. 153.

Coopers.—NATHAN SMITH was evidently one. Mr. Jona Bulkely employed and credits him "for six flower Barrils, 12s. and for hooping 6 barrels, 4s-8d.;" CALEB GRISWOLD, among other things furnished "powdering tubs," used to pickle meat in.

Fulling Mills.—The earliest articles fulled (with fullers' earth, then imported from England or Holland) were: serges, stuffs, kerseys, lindsey woolseys, woven upon the family loom. Cloth *dressing* was not attempted until many years later.

ZACHARIAH SEYMOUR, son of Richard, of Hartford, came to Wethersfield, from Farmington, before 1680. In March, 1697, the Town gave him liberty to place a Fulling Mill "upon the brook southwest from Capt. [John] Chester his lot: and to make a dam for a sufficient pond;" the work to be done within 18 months thereafter. It is believed by the writer that he built such a mill just southwest of the present "Mill" (Chester's) pasture; where a long trench is still seen along the dividing line between the wood lots lately of Welles Adams, deceased, and the Griswold lots. But it may have been further up the stream, where it flows through Griswoldville; near the conference of Two-Stone (or Collier) and Hang-Dog brooks.

A Fulling Mill (sometimes two) has been maintained in Griswoldville, from time immemorial, until about 1850. It is supposed Jacob Griswold (father of Maj. Josiah), who settled there about 1712, was a fuller. Maj. Josiah Griswold, who died in 1769, built one in Haddam, it is said; and his son, Josiah, who died in 1774, had one in the old red wooden buildings, built about 1760, and demolished in 1884, just west of the dwelling house of Jacob Griswold's heirs, in Griswoldville. Subsequently to Josiah Griswold's death the business was carried on at the same place until 1847, by Jacob, Justus, Thomas and other members of the Griswold family, who added to it the business of dying and cloth-dressing.—(See *Cloth Dressing*.)

About 1815, Ozias Griswold, son of Maj. Josiah, put up a Fulling Mill, near the dam at the foot of Stanley Griswold's home lot. It was placed on the site of an old sawmill, belonging to Ozias. About 1825, Thomas Griswold, Sen., son of Ozias, Thomas Griswold, Jr., and Justus Griswold, being partners as Thomas Griswold & Co., added satinet weaving to operations of the establishment. They also, about 1830, built a dam on Hang-Dog brook, diverting that stream, so that its waters were added to those of Two-Stone brook; on which the mill stood. The remains of the dam may still be seen, back in the pasture, southwest of the site of the satinet mill. The business of fulling here

ceased, with the other operations, in 1850.—(See *Satinet Weaving, Cloth Dressing, Knitting.*)

It should be added that, with one or two exceptions, Seymour's Fulling Mill was the most ancient in the Colony. There is said, however, to have been one in Hartford in 1690; and Heckley's, at New London, was built in 1693.

THOMAS TOUSLEY (now Toucey), ancestor of Gov. Isaac Toucey, came to Wethersfield about 1674. He was a fuller, and may have had a Fulling Mill there; as he certainly (in company with Wm. Pitkin) had one in Hartford, some years later.

There is an old trench through "Harriss" lot, both n. and s. of Daniel's Bridge, Griswoldville. This may have led from Seymour's Fulling Mill.

Carding and Weaving.—Wool carding (which precedes the process of spinning) was done by hand, for many years; just as the tow of hemp and flax had to be hatched or hackled, by hand, before being spun. Hand looms, for weaving serges, kerseys, flannels, fustians and "stuffs," of wool; linsey-woolseys, of wool and flax, combined; buckrams, Osnaburgs, and other linen fabrics, from flax; tow-cloth, from hemp; dimities, ginghams, cotton-checks, jeans and other textile fabrics, from "cotton-wool"—were in the hands of some families. Hemp and flax were probably the earliest materials woven here. Before the extermination of wolves, wool-growing was not largely carried on. Cotton was carded, spun and woven, earlier than wool.

The first weaver whose name we find in Wethersfield, is RICHARD SMITH, who came up from Pequott (New London) in February, 1656-7, and was then voted an inhabitant, and given land for his home-lot. But it is probable that one or more weavers were in Wethersfield 15 years earlier. Many families had spun thread from the tow of hemp and flax before the advent of Smith to the place.

THOMAS GRISWOLD & Co. (Thomas Griswold, Sen., Justus Griswold and Tho. Griswold, Jun.) were the first to introduce the power-loom in Wethersfield. They began in 1831 (some say in 1825), in the old fulling and cloth-dressing mill built in 1815, and described under the head of *Cloth-dressing*. They wove large quantities of satinnet; the product of their looms, in 1845, (together with those at Newington?) having been 43,000 yards. About 1847, J. Welles Griswold, son of Justus, succeeded to the business, which he continued until 1849; when he began stockinet-knitting in the same establishment, and the weaving of satinnet wholly ceased. Machine-made stockinet underclothing were made here, the material being wool and wool and cotton combined. J.

Welles Griswold, with his brother, Charles K. Griswold, in 1830, discontinued the business here, and transferred their machinery to the re-built "Brick" factory; which, after it was burnt down, they had purchased from the trustees of the insolvent Griswoldville Manufacturing Co. Here they continued, doing a thriving business, until 1863, when they sold to Austin Dunham & Co., of Hartford. In the meantime, they had introduced steam power, as auxiliary to their water power. The Dunhams ran the works for several years; but did not vigorously push them. They soon sold them to J. Welles Griswold and his sister, Mrs. John Holt, who were the owners in 1884. This factory has been idle for some years.

The J. Welles Griswold Co. was succeeded in time by J. Welles & Chas. K. Griswold. In 1845, the output of the Wethersfield mills was 43,000 yds. of satinet, consuming 35,250 pounds of wool, and during the same year 20,000 pounds of cotton-batting was produced in the town.

In Newington, we find Ensign JOHN WYATT, weaver in 1694; and THO. COUCH.

Cloth-Dressing, Clothiers and Tailors.—The dressing of cloth by "clothiers," was probably not attempted in this State, until about 100 years ago. Ozias Griswold, born in 1736, is said to have been a clothier. But this is doubtful; since his son, Thomas, went to Hartford to learn the trade of one Barnard. Cloth-dressing and dyeing was done by THOMAS, JUSTUS and JAMES GRISWOLD, in a building, erected for the purpose, about 1815, by their father, Ozias Griswold. It stood on the present site of Capt. Thomas Williams' factory building (unused), a little below the dam on the homestead of Stanley Griswold's heirs, at Griswoldville. It was a red, wooden structure; in which fulling was also done. It was this building in which satinet weaving was begun; at a later date. Cloth-dressing was done here until about 1850. This mill was demolished in 1884; and on its site a gristmill was erected, by the heirs of Capt. Thomas Williams. It is probable that a fulling-mill stood there before the one built by Josiah Griswold and that his mill was used for cloth-dressing, by Thomas Griswold, Sen., as early as 1795. The same business was continued there by Thomas, Jacob and Justus Griswold, until 1847, or later; when the manufacturing of edge-tools was begun there. Among the other processes of cloth-dressing was that of *teasling*; whereby a nappe was produced on the cloth, by causing it to pass over revolving cylinders, on which the seed-tops of teasels were arranged. Large crops of teasels were grown in Wethersfield. The

operation still has the same name; but wire cards or brushes are largely used to effect the same purpose.

In connection with this subject of "clothiers and tailors" we may mention DAVID GOODRICH, 1730; THOMAS & JAMES GRISWOLD, Oct., 1807; A. WEBSTER, 1859, and OBED PULSIFER, 1864. Nor must we overlook JOHN MARSH, who, in Apl., 1761, was credited on Mr. Jonathan Bulkeley's account book, with "making one pair of Leather Breeches—4s. 6d.,"—which price was certainly not high, according to present standards of value; at a later period SAMUEL GOODRICH made "leather breeches, also a Great Coat and a Jacket of Kersey;" and LOVELAND & LATIMER, of 1860, were probably the successors of the business of JOHN LOVELAND, of 1831.

Hat Factories.—Of this industry, we have but little data. [ELISHA WOLCOTT, gt-gd-son of Samuel Wolcott 2d, after some service in the army at New York in the summer and autumn of 1776, is said, at Gen. Washington's suggestion, to have returned to his home in Wethersfield for the purpose of making hats for the soldiers—and one of the "hat blocks" used by him in this manufacture, at the old Samuel Wolcott (present Bourne) house, is still in possession of his descendants.—*Letter of Mrs. J. W. Griswold.*]

Capt. JOHN PALMER's works on the east side of Broad Street, were the last in operation here. He "felted" large quantities of the fur of muskrats; and made hat bodies which he took to New York to sell. He employed four or five apprentices, besides other employees. Timothy Clark of Rocky Hill was a hatter, 1804.

Straw Braiding.—In 1819 and '20, Miss SOPHIA WOODHOUSE (afterwards Mrs. Gurdon Welles) was awarded a premium from "the Hartford County Society for Promoting Agriculture and Domestic Manufactures," for the best "Grass Bonnett," plaited by herself.

In 1821, letters patent of the U. S. were granted to her (she being then the wife of Gurdon Welles) as the inventor of a "new and useful improvement in the manufacture of Grass Bonnets and Hats." The specification shows that the improvement consisted in both the treatment and the use of a *new material*, for the purpose above stated. The stalk above the upper joint of certain grasses commonly growing in Wethersfield, to-wit: "Spear grass," or "English spear grass" and "red top" (the former preferred), was boiled until the sheath would slip off; then bleached, with a solution of pearl-ash; then fumigated with sulphur; then plaited like the Leghorn braid. Great skill was attained in the several processes; and the Wethersfield "Leghorn Hats" acquired a world wide fame. The wife of President John Quincy Adams was the

recipient of a "Straw Bonnet;" and the President was pleased to write of it that it was "an extraordinary specimen of American Manufacture."¹ The Society of Arts, of London, England, in 1821, sent to Miss Woodhouse a premium of twenty guineas, enclosed in a handsome morocco case, for an exhibited bonnet—which is certified to have been "superior in color and fineness, to the best Leghorn Straw."

Ropes and Cordage.—It is uncertain when the manufacture of cordage from hemp was begun in Wetherfield. Hemp was raised there as early as 1640; and ropes made from it were used for the rigging of vessels.

About a hundred years ago, JONATHAN BILL of Stepney parish had a rope walk, a little north of the Landing at Rocky Hill. He sold it to James Church of Hartford, in September, 1800. The latter continued it until about 1827; under the management of John Chauncey; when the works were removed to Hartford. The works were on the five acre tract belonging to the Town, and which had been reserved for a ship-yard, etc. *Samuel Bill & Co.* (S. Bill & Wait Robbins) advertise a dissolution of partnership, Jan. 1, 1805; *Elisha Church* was in business, 1790.

ASHER ROBBINS, Esq., built a "Hemp-mill" and rope walk in 1830, near the site of the present mattress factory, on Sucker brook. It was a fine establishment, but it led to the financial ruin of Mr. Robbins, who was a lawyer by profession. John Chauncey was its superintendent. In 1834, the rope works were sold to James and James Church, Jun., of Hartford; who removed them to that place. The hemp-mill was bought by Henry Harris, who converted it to a wagon factory; which, in a few years, was consumed by fire. The Hewitt-mattress factory was on its site; was rebuilt near the R. R. station, where it is now operated. The building containing the rope walk, which was southeast of the hemp-mill, was sold in sections.

Stocking Factory.—JAMES WALLACE, in May, 1776, was engaged in the manufacture of stockings, "in both the silk-cotton thread, and the

¹ March 6th, 1821. At Washington. Mr. John B. Hurd, of New York, called at the office [Department of State] * * * I spoke to him also, of a straw bonnet, made at Weathersfield, sold some months since at New York, as an extraordinary specimen of American manufacture, which Hurd bought and sent as a present to my wife. I told Hurd that, while, in the public situation which I hold, I make it a principle to accept no valuable present from any one, it was very harsh to interdict the acceptance of presents offered to my wife; and it gave me pleasure to see her giving countenance, according to our means, to the productions or ingenuity of our country. I had, therefore, consented to her acceptance of his present."—*Memoirs of John Quincy Adams*, V. p. 319.

See also Mrs. Earle's *Home Life in Colonial Days*, p. 260.

worsted way;" as appears from a petition then preferred to the General Assembly, asking for a bounty for his encouragement. The request was denied.¹

Chemicals.—The earliest articles made from chemical compounds were homemade. They were soap (soft), gunpowder and perhaps some others. Certain *non-chemical* productions were made by very many families. They were such as beeswax, bayberry-tallow, dye-stuffs (from safflower blossoms, bark of the oak and maple, etc.), black-ball (for shoes); ointments, and other simple products for common use.

Potash was made, in 1815, or earlier, at the south end of Broad Street. In 1831, the late Dr. ERASTUS F. COOKE and others were incorporated as "The Eagle Laboratory Company." Their works (now put to other uses) still exist. For some years they did a large business in the manufacture of saltpetre, copperas, etc.; but it eventually proved unprofitable to its owners. A portion of their works consisted of a glass room about 40 by 20 feet in size.

Saltpetre.—In January, 1776, DANIEL HINSDALE, of Hartford, and SAMUEL BOARDMAN of Wethersfield, both merchants—formed a co-partnership under the firm name of Samuel Boardman & Co., for the manufacture of saltpetre. They had their works about opposite the late Stephen Willard's at the lower, or south end, of Broad St., Wethersfield; between the highways which skirt that broad Green. They had potash kettles in their establishment; and it may be that they also made potashes. That they made large quantities of saltpetre is evident from the account, which the writer has seen, of the number of loads of earth (taken from under old barns and stables) to be used in the manufacture of the article. It must have commanded a high price, as gunpowder could not be made without it. Three shillings per load was paid for the earth used.

Book Printing.—In the early part of the present century, ABEL DEMING was a printer in Wethersfield.

The late Alfred Francis, Esq., and William Boardman (father of Wm. F. J.), together published several works. One of them, now before the writer, is a *Life of Thomas Jefferson*, 8 vo., 556 pp., by B. L. Rayner; purporting to have been published at New York, "By A. Francis and W. Boardman;" in 1832. It is an octavo volume of 556 pages; and the work is exceedingly well executed. It was printed in the building now the dwelling house on the northeast corner of Main and Gurdon Streets. Some of the works of Frederick Butler, A. M.,

¹ U. S. Patent Office Reports, 1850, p. 455.

and of Mr. Emerson, the teacher, were also printed in Wethersfield. Among books published by Wethersfield men, at a later date, we find: *Three Years' Wanderings of a Connecticut Yankee*, by C. M. Wells, New York, 1859, pp. 358, and *Life and Death in Rebel Prisons*, by Robert H. Kellogg, Hartford, 1865, 12 m., pp. 398.

Scroll Sawing; Wood Working.—WILLIAM ADAMS, JR., and HIRAM HAVENS, in 1837, began this industry. A dwelling house was drawn from the homestead of the former and placed at the gate of the dam of the Adams gristmill; where circular and scroll saws were put into it, moved by an undershot wheel. About their first work was the preparing the wood work for the interior of the Congregational church; then being renovated. The business was continued until 1844, when the plow works of Hiram Havens succeeded. Subsequently, the building became a mattress factory, and was such until it was consumed by fire.

Coffee and Spice Mill.—WILLIAM BOARDMAN, deceased, founder of the great house of Wm. Boardman & Sons, of Hartford, was the first to start the important industry of coffee and spice grinding in this vicinity, if not in the state, about forty years ago, in Wethersfield.—See *Boardman Genealogy*.

Plow Works.—In 1843, HIRAM HAVENS began the manufacture of plows for Thomas Smith & Co., of Hartford; now Smith, Bourne & Co. Their plows were mostly for the southern trade; in 1845, they manufactured 1,000.

Edge Tools; Hammers, etc.—The "Griswoldville Manufacturing Co.," was incorporated in 1832; the charter members being Thomas Griswold, Sen., Jacob, Justus and Stanley Griswold, and Asher Robbins. In 1837, they built the Brick Factory, in Griswoldville, into which they brought the water from the Reservoir in Deming's Meadow's by a new channel; and with it carried an immense "breast" wheel. They manufactured hammers and edge tools, until the factory burnt down, and the company failed, in 1847. Bailey and Wolcott (Arnold Bailey and Oliver Wolcott) then purchased the business, and transferred the works to the old dye-house and cloth-dressing establishment, in the old red wooden building next west of Jacob Griswold's house. Wolcott soon left the business and Bailey carried it on alone for the last three years of its existence; closing in 1865.

About 1830, Hosea Bulkeley, the then owner of the old Bulkeley gristmill at Dividend, sold the mill to a Mr. Russell of Middletown, who began the manufacture of axes. About 1835, the business passed into the hands of Israel Williams, William Butler and others; soon

afterwards, and, about 1842, was bought by Gen. Leonard R. Welles and Alfred Wilcox, who added to their list chisels and "plantation hoes." After Mr. Wilcox's death, the property was sold to Amos Whitney and Chas. E. Billings, the latter of whom now owns and occupies the old works as a branch of the Pratt & Whitney factory of Hartford. During the year 1884, the Billings & Edwards (now the Spencer & Billings) Co. erected a very substantial brick factory on the premises for the manufacture of mechanics' tools.

Tin and Pewter Ware.—The history of the beginning of this industry, by Capt. THOMAS DANFORTH, at Rocky Hill, is given in our Rocky Hill Chapter.

Pin Factory.—In 1775, LEONARD CHESTER, then 25 years of age, and a brother of Col. John Chester, applied to the General Assembly for a bounty "interest fee" for his encouragement in the manufacture of pins, an industry "never before attempted in this country." A committee was thereupon appointed to consider and make report upon the matter. It found Mr. Chester had six men employed in the business, and that he had expended more than £1,700 in providing tools, machines and materials for carrying on the manufacture of pins;" and it recommended that the state allow him a bounty of three pence per pound on manufactured pins. These articles were then made, as is generally known, with a round head, so loose as to be easily separated from the shaft. Chester (Leonardus), as he signs himself in his petition, was probably the earliest maker of them in this state. He died in 1803.¹ See *U. S. Patent Office Report*, 1850, p. 442.

Foundries.—An Iron Foundry for small castings was established in 1849, in the old carriage factory of Neff & Merriam, a little below the Landing at Rocky Hill. The owners were ROBERT SUGDEN and others, who had organized under the name of *The Rocky Hill Manufacturing Company*. About two years later they sold the works to Geo. W. Hartley, Esq., who was unsuccessful in the undertaking. The latter was succeeded by John G. Mix, of Hartford, who carried on the business of "rectifying" cider; making what was known to the trade as "champagne cider." Mix was succeeded in his industry by James Warner and ———— Blin, associated as Warner & Blin.

In April, 1854, BUTLER & SUGDEN (Wm. Sage Butler and Robert Sugden) established a foundry at Dividend. They made large quantities of cast iron shears and scissors and were the pioneers of this business in this country. Their goods were sold all over the United States

¹ *State Archives, Un. Industry* Vol. II, 155.

and Canada; and they were so successful that importations of these articles (previously considerable) wholly ceased.

In 1863, Mr. Sugden purchased the interest of his co-partner, and continued the business until 1865; when the works were destroyed by fire; the work of an incendiary. Sugden and Butler then reunited in business; rebuilt the works and shortly thereafter sold them to Steven Brown & Co., of Cromwell. The latter soon became insolvent and in addition the buildings were destroyed by fire. They were never rebuilt.

Carriage-Making.—Only the oldest factory of this kind that of NEFF & MERRIAM (William Neff and Edward Merriam) will be mentioned here. They located about 1830 a few rods below The Landing Place, at Rocky Hill, in buildings subsequently used by Sugden & Butler, as a foundry. The products of this factory were almost exclusively sold in the Southern States, and in 1839, they established at Wilmington, N. C., a "repository" for the sale of their carriages. Neff sold out to Merriam, by whom the business was continued until his death, at the South, about 1849. The property passed into the hands of the Rocky Hill Manufacturing Co.—which existed about five years; and it was then sold to T. & E. S. Belden. Its site is now occupied by H. H. Grant, as a coal yard.

From 1842 until 1847 or '48 T. B. ROGERS manufactured carriages; and, about the same time Joseph Porter, of West Rocky Hill, was engaged in the same line of business.

Other Industries, such as *cabinet and chairmaking; coffin—harness and mattress-making* (the last a large business conducted by the HEWITT BROS.), *shelf-hardware* (1881) which has since passed into the hands of the Pierce Hardware Co.—have been carried on at different times, and with varying degrees of success, in this town—which our limits will not permit us to treat of in detail.

[*Dry Goods.*—In the olden time of which we speak, there were, unless in the towns and cities, no so-called *Dry Goods* stores. All the country and most of the town stores were then devoted to general merchandise. Under this heading of *dry goods*, we, therefore, shall only attempt to convey to our readers the kinds and character of the dress and domestic goods sold in the stores in places like Wethersfield. "An attempt" we must call it, since time has dimmed our knowledge of what goods were meant by the names which have long been disused; such as *Barcelona Handkerchiefs*, *Barlow Penknives*, @ 20s. per doz.; *Barrican* ["Berri-gan"] a cloth resembling camelot; *Buckram*, @ 8d. per yd., lately revived

and much used in book-binding; *Calamanco* ["Calamin-ko"] a woolen cloth, originally made of camels' hair (Low Latin, *Calamaneus*); *Castor Hats*; *Cocabuck*, 1756; *Death Head Buttons*; *Durance* (possibly the same as *Durey* (*Dusant* from "*Durer*,")) "to last," a stout cloth, stiff, like leather, of which Dorothy—furnished the merchant a quantity, at £12; *Ferret*, a flowered silk (tape) Fr. *flouret*; *Fustian*, a coarse cloth; *German Serge*; *Lutestring*, worsted; *Osnabury* (called sometimes "Osnabrig"); *Padusoy*, a silk originally manufactured at Padua, Italy; *Prussianette*, @ £2, 10d. for 28 yds.; *Patches*, of cambric; "*Poukenus*," @ 5s. per doz.; *Pownges*, some sort of dish; *Rands*, insoles for shoes?; *Redwood*, logwood, sold by Ed. Howard, @ 3 s. per pd.; *Ratinett*, (old Fr. *Ratin*.) a thin woolen twilled; *Rummer*, a sort of short goblet, in which to take a hot whiskey?; *Sagathec* ["Sagathy"]; *Silk Lunge*; *Spotted Swanskin*; *Spincl*, a spindle, or collection of hanks of yarn; *Tamine* (Tanning), Fr. *Tamire* a sieve? or "Tammy," a woolen cloth; *Taffeta* (Taffety). We must confess our ignorance of the nature of some of these dry goods.

[*General Merchandise*.—Of enterprising merchants, of signal ability and large capital, Wethersfield has, in her day, had a great number. Among them (in addition to others already spoken of elsewhere, we may mention SILAS DEANE, who, in 1765, offers "a quantity of choice Brandy, which he will part with at a very low rate for cash, either by the hogshead, barrel or keg," also Hemp seed 20s. per bu.; and in 1768, and later he was a large dealer in flour. DAMARAS FRAZIER kept a store in 1759; JOSEPH WEBB, elsewhere mentioned, merchant and storekeeper, 1786; ELISHA BOARDMAN, 1796; RILEY, WRIGHT & Co., 1783; JOHN WOODHOUSE, 1787; JASON & JUSTUS ROBBINS, 1806; MAY & STILLMAN, about 1810; SIMEON BELDEN & SON, 1814; LEVI BUTLER & Co. kept store on Broad Street as late as 1803, and in 1793, paid cash for flax seed, old silver, pewter and beeswax; in 1798, were located four doors south of Meeting house; HENRY DEMING, who d. 1798, æt. 47, and whose business was continued by his widow, Anna Deming "& Co.," 12 July of that yr. "with an extensive assortment of European and India goods;" also ROBBINS & WILLIAMS; LOCKWOOD BELDEN; JOSEPH HALE, DR. ASHBEL ROBERTSON and JESSE GOODRICH, who all flourished about 1818 and '19.

Slaughter Houses.—Butchering was a more important business in early times, than at present, inasmuch as large quantities of salt beef and pork were exported from this and other River Towns. The first recorded grant of license for setting up a slaughter house in Wethersfield was in 1680 to Ens. John Stedman. It was set up on Town land.

Distilleries.—John Stewart's in 1775, is the earliest of which any mention is found, though it is probable that there were others still earlier. One below the Landing, at Rocky Hill, for making "rye gin," is still remembered. Also one owned by Capt. Wait Robbins, near his house, west of Goffe's brook. This latter made cider-brandy. In 1820, there were five in Wethersfield proper.

[*Bakers.*—Bakers, as understood at the present day, were not a necessity in the economy of domestic life, since every housewife made her own bread, cake, etc. But, during the days of Wethersfield's maritime prosperity (and especially in the Rocky Hill section) there was a large and steady demand for "sea bread," or biscuit, for the supply of the numerous vessels sailing hence to the West Indies, or other foreign ports; and there were some persons who engaged largely and regularly in its manufacture. These bakings were generally "put out" to these parties, who were willing or had the conveniences for making the bread. Jonathan Bulkeley, merchant at Stepney, in his Account Book, under date of 21st Nov., 1770, notes Allen Stillman, "dettor" for 4 Cwt. of Sea Bread, at Twenty Shillings per hundred—£4-00-00; and "half hundred Cornell Bread att Sixteen Shillings pr. hundred—£00-08-00." Also, Oct., 1771, Mr. Elias Williams, "dettor for Bakeing Cwt. 1, 2 *qr.*, 14 *lb.* hard Bread, at s.4/6 pr. hundred—£00, 7-03." Also, in following month, Mr. Elizur Goodrich, "Dbtr. for Ten Hundred Weight of hard Biskit Bread, @ 20s. pr. hundred—£10-04-00. Also, "July 4, 1768, fecht from Mr. Pomeroy's 20 bu. of Wheat to be Ground, and the flower delivered to John Marsh to Bake."—*H. R. S.*]

Libraries.—Early in the year, on March 17, 1783, a number of Wethersfield's citizens, among whom were Col. John Chester, Hon. Stephen Mix Mitchell, Mr. Joseph Webb, and Mr. Ezekiel Williams, associated themselves as the

["*Union Library Society.*," and adopted and printed a small nineteen-page pamphlet, containing Constitution, and By Laws, several copies of which are still extant.

It was, during the first years of its existence at least, maintained as a purely and somewhat exclusive *subscription* library, its subscribers being shareholders in the corporation, their shares being assignable, subject to certain conditions. The initial subscription was 20 shillings, and annual dues 4 shillings—tickets of membership were issued to subscribers whose admission, however, was subject to approval of the Directors; rejected applicants being entitled to appeal to the membership at large, within two years ensuing. Col. John Broome and Dr. Jo-

siah Hart were a sort of Executive Committee and Mr. Ezekiel Williams was the first Treasurer. The Library was open for issuing and return of books, for two hours, of every Saturday afternoon, fortnightly; and the length of time allowed to each subscriber for reading the book he selected, was, somewhat strangely, made dependent upon the *size of the volume!* Thus a *folio* might be kept for eight weeks, while an *octavo* (or two *duodecimos*) volume could be kept only four weeks! But, in view of the self-evident fact that some persons could get through a volume more quickly than others, it was provided that, by obtaining an order, signed by any three of the Directors, such member should have the privilege of taking out *two octavos*, or *four duodecimos*, for a period of four weeks. Members were held to the strictest account for damages to books, and all privileges were denied them, until fines or penalties were paid.

The records of the High Street School District show that, in April, 1784, the upper room of its school house was, by vote of the district, leased to that Society "for the library," and it was also voted that the closet, a small room at the N. W. cor. of the schoolhouse, above stairs, be leased to said Society, to take in and deliver out books, on Saturday afternoon only, for five years. A catalogue of the books in the library, fills eight pages of the pamphlet referred to and shows a collection of 416 volumes, selected from the best works of the day, on a variety of subjects (religious and didactical, being the most prominent) with scarcely a novel among them. And each volume contained a crude book-plate. A later catalogue, issued about 1870, shows that there were then 587 volumes. After the completion of the Academy (erected 1798) the Library was kept in its second story, but as public interest languished, it was broken up and about 1850, the books were sold at public auction.

The Wethersfield Society Library.—In 1866, a new and more earnest movement was made toward a public library. Its constitution was framed on that of the Young Men's Institute of Hartford, and the organization was called the Wethersfield Society Library. Its annual membership fee was \$3 for each gentleman and \$2 for a lady—life membership \$25. Sufficient money was raised for a respectable beginning—papers and magazines purchased and a reading room opened.

The Rose Library.—A few months later the Society received an offer from Mr. Chauncey Rose of Terre Haute, Ind., a native of Wethersfield, of \$3,000, on condition that it should raise \$500 more. Under the stimulus of this offer, other donations of money and of books, were made, and the Library soon boasted a list of almost 1,600 volumes. Its

first home was in the second story of the building on the corner next south of the Congregational church, but since 1872 it has been kept in the upper room of the Chapel of said church. The late Sherman W. Adams was its president. The library has had its fluctuations of interest and of neglect, but has of late years availed itself of an appropriation from the Town of \$200 per annum, establishing it as a free library, with a small annual appropriation for current expenses; and this with the use of the old Society's books, and the help furnished by the State, serves to keep alive the free public library system of the Town. The present library, now known as "The Free Public Library," is accommodated in the north room of the Academy Building, to which quarters it was removed from the Congregational Chapel, some years ago.

Newington and Rocky Hill, both have interesting library histories, which will be more fully exploited in the chapters relating to those respective towns.—*H. R. S.*]

Village Improvement Society.—This was organized in October, 1883, for the purpose of procuring street lights, improving sidewalks and encouraging all attempts towards increasing the attractiveness and comfort of the village. It started in with 173 members, and up to 1899, had expended nearly \$6,000 of which the Town had paid nearly one-third.

Freemasons.—Columbia Lodge, No. 25, F. & A. M., was chartered in May 1793, for Stepney Point (Rocky Hill). It is the only one which has existed in Wethersfield township. It now has its hall in Glastonbury, where it has been for many years. John Nott was the first of its Worshipful Masters.

The Constitution of the *Wethersfield Religious Society*, dated Jan. 1, 1817, with list of 15 original members, is a Mss. in possession of Mr. F. W. J. Boardman; as also Articles of the *Female Society of Wethersfield* (religious object) dated 1 Jan., 1814, ten original members.

The "old Corner Store."—The earliest recorded mention of this time-honored institution, is in 1789, when it was first moved to the corner of Broad and East Main Sts., and was given by Samuel Riley to Sarah, wife of James Francis. On Nov. 8th, 1791, a part of this lot "S. E. cor., 40 ft. on all sides" was deeded by James and Sarah Francis, "with store" to Samuel Franklin and Wm. J. Robinson, of New York; and by them deeded, 22 Feb., 1792, to Michael and Thomas Bull, of Htfd. A. Riley and Calvin Dodge were the next owners, having rec'd it from the Bulls, 4 Aug., 1798, and in Nov., of the same year, sold it to Moses

Montague, whose wid. Eunice transferred it, 6 Jan. 1813, to William and Gurdon Montague, from whom, within the same month it passed to Joseph Hale, and for many years was used by Adams & Hanmer, as a tobacco warehouse. It was burned March 16th, 1896.

Wethersfield's Funeral Observances on the occasion of Gen. Washington's Death.—(*Conn. Courant.*)

Wethersfield, March 4, 1800. As a public testimony of respect to the memory and grief for the incalculable loss of the late General George Washington, on the morning of Saturday, the 22nd ult., agreeably to previous directions given by and under the superintendence of the Committee of Arrangements, the pulpit, canopy, communion table, and galleries of the brick meeting house were hung with black. At nine o'clock a. m., the solemnities of the day were commenced by the tolling of the bell until eleven—the tolling recommenced at one p. m. At two o'clock p. m., the citizens of the three parishes in an unusual concourse assembled, when the following exercises were performed:

1. Was sung the 89th Psalm—the tune adapted to the occasion.
2. An excellent well adapted Prayer, by the Rev. John Marsh, pastor of the first society.
3. A Hymn specially composed for the occasion, and highly expressive of the solemn grief which apparently pervaded the whole assembly.
4. An Oration by Ebenezer G. Marsh, A. M., in which the moral and social virtues of the man of war, were handsomely delineated, and his talents as a soldier and a statesman judiciously contrasted with those of the heroes of ancient times. Of its merits the silent unremitting attention of the numerous auditory was the testimonial.
5. An Anthem from the 14th Chapter of Revelations—"I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, write from henceforth blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, even so saith the spirit, for they rest from their labours."

The mourning badge of black crape was generally worn—the Singers, particularly the Ladies, were in a uniform of white, with head dresses of the same colour trimmed with black.

The store of the merchant, the shop of the mechanic were closed, the labour of the husbandman suspended, and the deportment of all ranks of citizens evidenced both their veneration and esteem for the distinguished virtues of, and their inconsolable grief for the death of the Father of their Country."

The Grange Hall, P. of A.—Said to be the *first* Grange property in the State, was dedicated September 30, 1898. It first held its meeting, in the Academy; but later in the new building. It is one of, if not *the* largest Granges in the State.

Taverns.—These *quasi*-public establishments were more numerous, and of more importance, formerly, than now. There have been times, since the Revolution, when there were three or four Taverns within the present narrow limits, of Wethersfield. Now there is none; the well-remembered May's hotel having been the last.

The first public house may have been kept by John Saddler, on the west side of High St.: being on land he bought of Samuel Clarke, in 1642, or earlier. It seems to have ben a tavern in 1648. Richard Smith, Jr., the ferryman, had a tavern, in 1675, and probably earlier, on the New London road, at the Naubuc terminus of the ferry. John Belden was chosen "ordinary Keeper," at a town-meeting, the same year. He had a house on each side of Broad St., but the ordinary was probably in that on the east side. Mr. John Devotion was licensed, in 1713, to keep a "house of entertainment." Benjamin Belden was also licensed the following year. In 1717, Corp. John Francis was licensed to be "tavern-keeper" for the year next ensuing.

In 1781, when Washington and his military associates had their conference in Wethersfield, Stillman's tavern, which stood, until a few years ago, where the house of Dea. R. A. Robbins now stands—was the principal public house in the place: and in it the distinguished company were part of the time entertained.

We are obliged to omit any account of other such houses; whether within the present, or the old limits of the township.

Population and Wealth.—The first indication of the comparative wealth of the three River plantations is to be found in an order of the General Court, in 1639; when the sum of £100 to be raised, was apportioned among the towns, (the only ones in the Colony, at that time), as follows:

	£.	s.	d.
Hartford—	43	00	00
Windsor	28	06	08
Wethersfield	28	13	04
Total—	£100		

At this same time, the able-bodied men, or those subject to military duty, and called out to engage in the Pequot campaign—were apportioned as follows:—

Hartford, 17 men; Windsor, 13 men; Wethersfield, 10 men; forty men in all.

It thus appears that whilst Wethersfield ranked second in wealth, she ranked third in population. In the following year Hartford's tax was £43, and Windsor's and Wethersfield's £28 each. In 1649, Windsor and Wethersfield taxes were still equal; or there was but 10*d.* difference between them. But in the levy of troops at that time Windsor's quota was 11 men, and Wethersfield's 8; that of Hartford being 13 men.

In 1658, the ratio of "Persons and Estates," was as follows:

Hartford, Persons,	187; Estates,	20,547£.
Windsor, do.	160; do.	16,209.
Wethersfield do.	163; do.	12,397.

As between Wethersfield and Windsor, the population of the latter, *within the old lines*, has continued to be one-third, or more, greater than that of the former, within *its* old lines. Omitting Beckley's quarter, now in Berlin, and a corner of Marlborough—the inhabitants within the old lines of Wethersfield, in 1880, numbered 8,796; those within the old Windsor lines, 12,400. In this estimate Simsbury is not accounted as ever a part of Windsor. If we take the *present* townships of Windsor and Wethersfield, we shall find about the same ratio of population. The former numbered 3,056 inhabitants in 1880, and the latter 2,173. The grand lists for that year, were respectively as follows:

Windsor, \$1,626,586; Wethersfield, \$1,217,946. But the area of the former is nearly three times as great as that of the latter.

The earliest census the writer has found of Wethersfield, by *parishes*, is that of the year 1779. Comparing that with the census of the same sections, as *towns*, in 1880, we obtain the following results of one hundred years growth:—

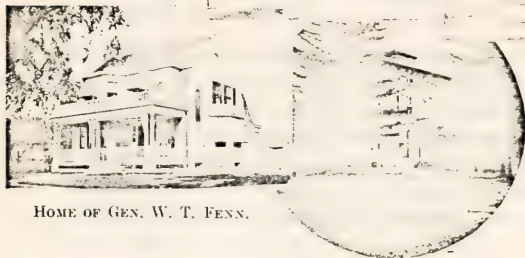
	1779	1880
Weth. First Soc., (now Town of Weth.)	1910	2173*
Stepney Soc., (now Town of Rocky Hill)	881	1109
Newington Soc., (now Town of Newington)	508	934
Beckley Quarter (now in Berlin)	278	(say) 300
Totals	3577	4516

* Lina then has not materially changed.

RESIDENCE OF
GEO. B. KELLOGG.



THE HENRY BUCK
PLACE.

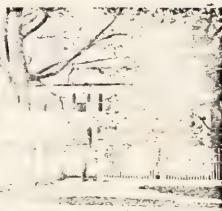


HOME OF GEN. W. T. FENN.

THE HARRIS PLACE.



RESIDENCE OF
HON.
S. W. ROBBINS



THE LOCKWOOD HOUSE.

THE WILLIAMS
PLACE.



THE CHESTER PLACE.

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SOME PRIVATE RESIDENCES IN WETHERSFIELD.

In 1756, Wethersfield's population was 2,483; whereof 109 were Negroes. If to this be added Glastonbury's (1,115), we have as a result 3,598, as the number of inhabitants then within the *old* limits of the township. The whole number at that time within Hartford township, (whose limits then included the present towns of West Hartford, East Hartford and Manchester) was 3,027; showing that ancient Wethersfield was then, numerically considered, the more important of the two towns.

Small Pox. This disease, which before Dr. Jenner's discovery of the principle of vaccination was more dreaded than to-day—was early prevalent in Wethersfield; it having been introduced from New York. In 1693, Peter Disborough, of Rye, N. Y., was a victim to it, and several of the people were required to quit the house of Robert Francis, where the patient lay, and be quartered at the home of John Stedman; the town making the latter compensation therefor. (See also *Col. Rec.* V. 477; VI. 264.)

THE PHYSICIANS OF WETHERSFIELD AND NEWINGTON. (Note those of Stepney, now Rocky Hill, are given in Dr. Griswold's *History of Rocky Hill*—Chapter XIX.) Mr. Austin Robertson, son of one of Wethersfield's honored physicians, has helped us much in making up this list.—H. R. S.

ABCHER, Henry A., (M. D.) born, Carlisle, England, 1820; Came with his father's family to Webster, Mass., in 1824; studied medicine with Dr. Amos Beecher, of Barkhamsted; graduated, Yale Medical School, 1847; received degree of M. D. from Medical College of Ky.; practiced at Wethersfield, Brooklyn, N. Y., and Meriden, Ct.; died, aged 74 years, 7 months; left a daughter, (Mrs. Butler) of Meriden.

ATWOOD, Thomas, 1663-81, see *Atwood Genealogy*, Vol. II.

AYRAULT, Nicholas, 1687-1707; see *Ayrault Genealogy*, Vol. II.

ANDRUS, Joseph, (Newington) 1707-1756—"A shrewd, observing man, who had a very retentive memory—died, 18 Jany., 1756, aged 78.—*Newington Annals*.

BELDEN, Joshua (son of Rev. Joshua) Newington—Settled there, after graduation, about 1781: but, after a time relinquished professional work for farming. See *Belden Genealogy*, Vol. II.

Chauncey, (M. D.), Newington; died, 22 Nov. 1845, aged 41.

L. W. (M. D.), Newington; died, 26 Oct., 1839, aged 38.

BRUCE, Dr. Barwick, from Island of Barbadoes—owned the present Robertson house for 7 years from Nov. 1809, which he sold 1816 to Dr. A. Robertson.

- BULKELEY, Rev., et Dr. Gershom, came to Wethersfield, 1667; died 2 Dec., 1713, aged 77: See *Bulkeley Genealogy*, Vol. II; also Chapters VII and this volume.
- CURTIS, Thomas, Dr., (traditional) 1639-1681; died, 1681, aged 83: See *Curtis Genealogy*.
- FARNSWORTH, Joseph; married at Wethersfield, 1741; wife died, aged 43, in 1760; The *Town Records* contain a certificate of a man's unfitness for military duty, signed by him, and Dr. Porter, in Oct. 1773.
- FOX, Roswell, (M. D.), succeeded Dr. A. Robertson, 1847; died, 1898.—See *Fox Genealogy*.
- FOX, Edward G., (M. D.), son of Dr. Roswell.—See *Fox Genealogy*. Settled here 1883.
- HALL, Dr. Archibald (Newington).
- HAND, Rev. A. Baptist minister, at one time in charge of the Baptist Church, in Wethersfield.
- HART, Josiah, Dr. (1778-1796), graduated Yale College. : in 1775, enlisted in Conn. Regiment as assistant surgeon and re-enlisted, as surgeon, 1776, in Revolutionary War.—See *Hart Genealogy*, Vol. II.
- HOOKE, Daniel, from about 1705-1742.—See *Hooker Genealogy*, Vol. II.
- HOWARD, Arthur W., (M. D.), settled Wethersfield, 1890.
- MCLEAN, Neil, (M. D., Edinburgh, Scotland), at Hartford, 1734-37, and Wethersfield, 1773, until death in 1784.—See *Stiles' History of Windsor, Conn.*, also, *Genealogy*, Vol. II, of this work.
- Neil, M. D., at Wethersfield, 1824-26—*Mrs. Mary D. McLean*.
- MARSH, Jonathan, "late of Norwich," Ct., and "about 20 years experience as a surgeon"; died in Wethersfield, 3 June, 1766, aged 47 years.—See 1739—See *Marsh Genealogy*, Vol. II.
- MIX, Dr. Rev. Elisha, A. M., Y. C., 1724, (only son of Rev. Stephen); died, 1 June, 1739—See *Mix Genealogy*, Vol. II.
- MOSELY, Dr. Abner, 1786-1811; died, 20 Sept., 1811, aged 45.—See *Moseley Genealogy*, Vol. II.
- OLCOTT, Dr. George, 1789-1801; died, 29 Mch. 1814, aged 61.
- PEERIN, Thomas, m. in Wethersfield, 1740.—See *Perrin*, in Vol. II.
- POISSON, Dr.
- PORTER, Dr., Ezekiel, practiced in Wethersfield many years prior to his death, in 1775, at age of 69.—See *Porter Genealogy*, Vol. II.

RICHARDSON, William Henry, studied medicine under Dr. Ashbel Robertson; settled for awhile in Newington, where he introduced inoculation for small-pox; (*Annals of Newington*), he may have removed to Mansfield, Ct.

ROBERTSON, Ashbel, M. D. (1815-1827), practiced first under license from Conn. Medical Soc'y Mch. 1815; graduated, Yale Medical School ; also kept store in Wethersfield 1816-1833; succeeded Dr. Barwich Bruce of whom he bought, in Nov., 1816, the present Robertson home, now occupied by his son Austin.

ROCKWELL, Dr. Alonzo, contemporary with Dr. Roberston; died about 1847.

RUSSELL, Gurdon W., (M. D.), the well known and venerable physician of Hartford, practiced for awhile in Wethersfield.

TRYON, Dr. Joseph, died 1738, aged 67.—*Glastonbury Inscription*.

WADSWORTH, Dr. Newington.

WILLARD, Dr. Newington.

WARNER, Abner, Spicer, born 18 Sept., 1818; died 22 Nov., 1900, in N. Y. State; graduated, Dartmouth College, 1842, and at Dartmouth. Medical School, 1848; came to Wethersfield, 1848; surgeon of 16th Conn. Vol. Reg., in Civil; succeeded Dr. Archibald, Welch.

WELCH, Dr. Archibald, succeeded Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, about 1832 or '33. He was killed in the Norwalk railroad disaster, 1853.

WELLS, I. N., res. in Wethersfield, 1903.

WOODWARD, Dr. Samuel B., 1817-1832; also kept store in Wethersfield; left here to enter upon the superintendency of the Mass. Insane Asylum at Worcester, where he achieved a high professional reputation.

CHAPTER XVI.

Wethersfield's Share in the War of Independence, 1812—The Mexican War—War of the Civil Rebellion—Spanish-American War.

[BY SHERMAN W. ADAMS, Esq.]

THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE, 1812-14.—Wethersfield did not largely participate in the "War of 1812," with Great Britain. In fact, the war was extremely unpopular in New England. The Governors of three Eastern States (of which Connecticut was one), at first refused to comply with the requisition made upon them, for militia, by the General Government. Among her people there was a great diversity of opinion as to the advisability, or even the necessity of a war; party spirit ran high upon the question; and the celebrated conference, held at Hartford in December, 1814, by delegates from the disaffected New England States (sitting in secret session and known in history, as the "Hartford Convention") gave to Connecticut the undeserved odium of being not only reluctant, but even traitorous in its relations to the war, and to the dignity of the United States.¹ It was the old story which has been repeated in every war, from that of the Revolution, down to the Spanish-American war.

The fact remains, however, that Connecticut did not enter into the war with any very great degree of interest; and, not until the British blockade of her coast in December, 1813, brought home the dangers of war to her own doors, did the local militia show any activity, or volunteering become brisk.

Wethersfield, being, from her location, in but slight peril from war-like operations—her sons, who entered the service, mostly found themselves employed in the defensive operations about New London and other sea-coast towns.

The Legislature, at its October session, 1812, authorized the raising of two regiments of infantry of ten companies each; a company, including officers and musicians, to contain 112 men. Four companies of artillery were authorized at the same time, and four "troops of

¹ The reader who wishes to obtain an intelligent view of the political situation in Connecticut, and in New England generally, at this period of our national life, as well as of the true nature of the Hartford Convention, will do well to consult the 2d volume of *S. C. Goodrich's* (Peter Parley) *Recollections*.

horse." Each artillery company was to contain 58 men, all told; and each troop of horse 45, all told. At its October session, 1814, one thousand officers and men were added to those already raised.—*H. R. S.*]

In addition, there were "detached" companies and regiments "of the United States;" made up of companies drawn from the militia; of which there were, in 1814, 35 regiments. In Capt. Jared Strickland's company of the "First Detached Regiment of the U. S.," commanded by Col. Ezra Brainerd, were many Wethersfield men. Herewith is a list of such as the writer is able to identify: George Crane, Joshua Goodrich, Robert Welles, Jr., *Sergeants*; Hiram Fox(?), Epaphras Andrews, *Corporals*; William Holmes, *fifer*; John Fran, *Drummer*; Samuel Ames, George Adams, William Blinn, Hezekiah Butler, Joseph Blinn, Elias Blinn, Russell Butler, Thomas Coleman, Joseph Chapman, John Coleman, Asa Church, Sam. Coleman 2d, David Dickinson, Charles Francis(?), William Flint, Jasper Goodrich, Levi Holmes, Jr., Charles Hurlburt, Tho. M. Luce, Joseph Mitchell, Davis Morris(?), Warren Rose, Asa Sawyer, James Smith, Jr., Amos Sanford, James Treat, Elijah Tryon, David Tryon, Jesse Vibbert, Elisha R. Welles, Humphrey Woodhouse, Joseph Wright, Lewis Williams, Asa Wickham. Henry Baker, Jr., enl. 13 Nov., 1813, in Capt. Northup's Co., 37th Inf., U. S. A.; re-enl. 5 June, 1814; d. 18 Jan., 1815, in Capt. Elijah Boardman's Co., U. S. A.—*Conn. in Rev.*

Some of these were taken prisoners by the British, from privateers. Two such Wethersfield men died in the noted prison at Dartmoor, England. They were: Simeon Clark, Jan. 24th, 1813, from the *Snappdragon*; and James Williams, Jan. 14th, 1815, from the *Caroline*.

Further enquiry might possibly show that several of the remaining names upon this list, from which these are taken, were also those of Wethersfield men.

From Notes of Dr. R. W. Griswold, deceased, we gather the following names of *Stepney* parish men who served in this war:

Joshua Goodrich,	Russell Butler,	Levi Holmes, Jr.
Joseph Blinn,	Jasper Goodrich,	

HORACE (son Fred, Jr.) ROBBINS was in service under Gen. Jackson, at New Orleans; but, being on detail duty elsewhere, did not participate in the famous battle at that place.

THE MEXICAN WAR, like that of 1812, was of political origin, and not of a nature to enlist the enthusiasm of any but that class who are

always ready for a fight or an adventure. Among the few who served from Connecticut, not more than one company in all, we have not recognized any Wethersfield men.

THE WAR OF THE CIVIL REBELLION.—In this war, Wethersfield contributed more than her quota of soldiers for the maintenance of the Union; and of her means also abundantly. In order, however, to ascertain the number of those who were sons of Wethersfield, there should be *added* to the list the names of those who, having removed, were credited to other towns, within and without this state; and there should be *deducted* the names of those who were natives of other places. [The list of Wethersfield soldiers found in Judge Adams' MSS. was probably compiled from the State's Official Catalogue of Connecticut Volunteers, derived from the original Company Rolls, or "rosters," in the Adjutant-General's Office, and which contained a number of errors. We have, therefore, submitted it for careful re-vision to Mr. THOS. N. HANMER, of Wethersfield, himself a soldier of the Civil War, and whose intimate acquaintance with the Wethersfield volunteers engaged in that war, has secured for it a more satisfactory degree of accuracy. Mr. Hanmer's summary is as follows:

Total number credited to Wethersfield as volunteers in the Union Army and Navy, in the War of the Civil Rebellion, 193; total number credited as substitutes and unassigned, 35; number accredited to other towns, 6; whole number, 234.

Casualties, as follows: Killed in action, 6; died of wounds and disease, 17; died in prison, 5; total deaths, 28.

Wounded, 19; captured, 19; discharged for disabilities, 19; deserted, 43;¹ shot for desertion, 1.—*H. R. S.*]

¹In regard to the word "deserted," so damnnatory to a soldiers reputation, if found on the official record of his services, it must not be always taken in its worst sense. Many soldiers, after the surrender of Gens. Lee and Johnston, concluded that the war was over, and becoming tired of waiting for their discharge, discharged themselves by returning to their homes. Consequently when they were found absent at company roll-call, and their whereabouts unknown, they were *officially* considered as having deserted. The same thing has happened in every one of our wars, from the colonial times, and the Revolutionary war, down to the present. *All* those who thus prematurely left for home were not really, at heart, "deserters"; their record should have been, and many have been, corrected upon proper representation to the War Department, and by Act of Congress removing the stigma of desertion when it occurred after May 11th, 1865. In going over our list, therefore, this term of "deserted," may be taken with some latitude.

*A List of Soldiers (Volunteers) in the War of the Civil Rebellion,
Credited to Wethersfield—From the Report of the Adjutant-
General of the State.*

- Augustus F. Adams, Nov. 25, 1861; Co. G., 10th Reg.; Corp'l; wounded at Kinston, N. C.; re-enlisted.
- Ebenezer Adams, Aug. 25, 1862; Co. B, 22d Reg.
- Edward P. Adams, Sept. 27, 1862; Co. I, 27th Reg.
- George W. Adams, Aug. 21, 1862; Co. B, 22d Reg.; Sgt.
- Sherman W. Adams, Acting Ass't., P. M., gunboat *Somerset*; enl. 10 Nov. 1862; resig. 11 Oct., 1864.
- Stoddard Adams, Aug. 25, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- William Archy, Dec. 11, 1863; Co. C, 29th Reg.; Colored Reg.
- Edward Aldrich, Nov. 4, 1864; Co. H, 7th Reg.
- George Baker, Aug. 26, 1864; Co. B, 1st Heavy Art.; deserted.
- Samuel Baker, Nov. 17, 1864; 1st Light Battery.
- Charles Barnes, Dec. 2, 1863; Co. C, 29th Reg., Colored Reg.
- James Barton, Nov. 21, 1864; Co. A, 8th Reg.; deserted.
- Sidney Bassey, Dec. 22, 1863; Co. F, 29th Reg. Colored.
- Sam. H. Belden, Apr. 19, 1861; Co. B, 1st Reg.; re-enlisted, Co. A, 16th Reg.; corp'l; died, Oct. 4, 1864, at Charleston, S. C.
- James Behan, Aug. 30, 1864, Co. C, 1st Heavy Art.
- Daniel K. Bennett, Aug. 29, 1862; Co. B, 22d Reg.
- Levi Benson, Sept. 9, 1862; Co. B, 25th Reg.
- Dennis Berrigan, Nov. 19, 1864; Co. D, 1st Heavy Art.; deserted.
- Austin Bishop, Dec. 27, 1861; Co. A, 12th Reg.; re-enlisted.
- Chas. L. Blake, Dec. 1, 1863; 1st Conn. Cav.; deserted.
- Chester Blake, Dec. 1, 1863; 1st Conn. Cav.; deserted.
- Edgar F. Blinn, May 23, 1861, Co. K, 1st Heavy Art.; Must. out, Sept. 25, 1865; entered Reg. Army.
- Unni P. Blinn, Aug. 27, 1862; Co. E, 22d Reg.
- Henry Bluff, Nov. 5, 1864; Co. H, 7th Reg.; deserted.
- Louis Boner, Aug. 26, 1863; Co. K, 20th Reg.; deserted.
- John P. Bowen, May 22, 1861; Co. G, 1st Heavy Art.; died Sept. 13, 1861, Darns-town, Md.
- Fernando Bradley, July 31, 1862; Co. A, 16th Reg.
- Patrick Brady, Aug. 30, 1864; Co. C, 1st Heavy Art.
- Thomas Brannon, Apr. 7, 1864; Co. B, 12th Reg.
- George Briggs, Feb. 12, 1864; Co. I, 7th Reg.; wounded, 29 Sept., 1864, at Chapin's Farms, Va.
- George Buckley, Aug. 25, 1862; Co. E, 22d Reg.
- Tho. F. Bunce, Sept. 9, 1862; Co. B, 25th Reg.
- James Burns, Nov. 10, 1862; Co. B, 25th Reg.; deserted.
- Daniel Burke, Jan. 4, 1864; Co. F, 21st Reg.; transf. to 10th Reg.
- Henry W. Cady, Aug. 30, 1864; Co. C, 1st Heavy Art.; died, Feb. 27, 1865, at Fort Brady, Va.
- Daniel Callahan, Aug. 23, 1862; Co. A, 25th Reg.; Sgt.
- Geo. Campbell, Sept. 2, 1863; Co. F, 5th Reg.; died of wounds, Chattanooga, July 28, 1864.
- Robert Campbell, Feb. 13, 1864; Co. F, 7th Reg.; died, Andersonville, Aug. 31, 1864.
- James W. Carter, Feb. 5, 1862; Co. A, 13th Reg.; re-enl., Dec. 23, 1863; Co. H, 1st Heavy Art.; discharged, 7 Aug., 1865.

- John Cavanaugh, Aug. 28, 1863; Co. H, 5th Reg.
- John B. Clapp, July 20, 1862; 16th Reg.; Adjutant (Serj. Co. A).
- Henry G. Clark, Oct. 4, 1864; Co. E, 18th Reg.
- John Clarkson, Nov. 21, 1864; Co. D, 8th Reg.; deserted.
- Philip Clancy, May 31, 1862; Co. I, 14th Reg.; deserted.
- John Clifford, Nov. 18, 1864; Co. D, 8th Reg.; deserted.
- Charles Clontier, Meh. 28, 1864; Co. A, 11th Reg.; deserted.
- James Cogan, Aug. 26, 1864; Co. F, 7th Reg.; deserted.
- George Colvin, Sept. 7, 1861; Co. B, 7th Reg.; died at Hilton Head, Sept. 19, 1862.
- James Conray, Aug. 29, 1864; 7th Reg.; not taken up on Rolls.
- Thomas L. Crittenden, 18 July, 1862; Co. I, 14th Reg.; wd. 3 July, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa., and 12 May, at Spotsylvania, Va.; credited to Hartford.
- Ralph Cowles, 16 July, 1862, Co. F, 14th Reg.; Sgt.; cred. to New Britain.
- Patrick Crowe, July, 21, 1864; Co. D, 8th Reg.
- Henry F. Cummings, Jan. 4, 1864; Co. K, 2d Heavy Art.; deserted.
- Charles Dailey, May 11, 1861; Rifle Co. A, 3d Reg.
- John Damery, Aug., 18th, 1862; Co. A, 16th Reg.; died July 20th, 1864, at Charleston, S. C.
- Eugene Davis, Jan. 18, 1865; Co. C, 20th Reg.; transf. to 5th Reg.
- Henry W. Davis, Nov. 25, 1861; Co. K, 11th Reg.; killed at Sharpsburg, Va., Sept. 17, 1862.
- Wm. B. DeBlois, Dec. 27, 1861; Co. B, 12th Reg.; enl. 20 Nov., 1861; mustered in as musician; prom. corp'l, 1 Nov., 1863; re-enl. vet. 1 Jan., 1864; disch. 24 July, 1865; also served in 1st R. I. Reg.
- Michael Delaney, Aug. 1862, Co. B, 22d Reg.
- David W. Deming, 13 Aug., 1862; Co. C, 16th Reg.; wd. 24 Apl., 1863, at Suffolk, Va.; d. 28 Oct., 1864, at Andersonville, Ga.
- Francis Deming, May 11, 1861; Co. A, 3d Reg.; Meh. 15, 1862; Co. A, 13th Reg.; Corp'l; wd. 19 Sept., 1864, at Winchester, Va.; dischd. 24 July, 1865.
- Geo. S. Deming, Aug. 30, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- Henry H. Deming, Aug. 23, 1862; Co. A., 25th Reg.
- Richard Deming, Dec. 14, 1863; Co. A., 29th Reg.; colored Reg.
- Geo. T. Dickson, Nov. 20, 1861; Co. C, 12th Reg.; Corp'l; wd. 19 Oct., 1864, at Cedar Creek, Va.
- Edgar T. Dix, Aug. 28, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- James Donnelly, Nov. 19, 1861; Co. C., 14th Reg.; deserted.
- Newell Dow, Aug. 30, 1862; Co. D., 22d Reg.; re-enl. 30 Aug., 1862; Co. D, 23d Reg.; corp'l.
- Henry G. Dow, Aug. 25, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- Geo. N. Downes, Aug. 29, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- Newell Dow, Dec. 13, 1861; Co. A., 13th Reg.
- Gilbert Snowdon Dwight, Co. K, 4th Ohio Reg.; d. 14 July, 1862, at Lewisville, Ky.
- Larrey Finner, Nov. 11, 1864; Co. E., 6th Reg.
- Charles Francis, Jun., Aug., 1862; Co. B, 22d Reg.; died May 11th, 1863; Suffolk, Va.
- Daniel W. Francis, Aug., 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- Edgar L. Francis, Aug. 29, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- Ira E. Forbes, July 28, 1862; Co. A., 16th Reg.; Cap't.
- Charles S. Gains, Aug. 27, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- Geo. E. Galligher, 26 Aug., 1863; Co. A., 16th Reg., U. S. A., killed, 1 June, 1864, at Cold Harbor.
- Wm. A. Garvie, Nov. 20, 1861; Co. A., 12th Reg.; Sgt.
- Azariah Gladden Jan. 5, 1864; Co. A. 1st Heavy Art.; deserted.

- James H. Gladding, Nov. 2, 1862; 1st Light Battery.
- Lafayette Gladding, Aug. 30, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- John Goldrick, 20 June, 1863; seaman, U. S. st. strs. *Catskill* and *Augusta Dinsmore*.
- Frederick Goobell, Sept. 7, 1862; Co. D., 14 Reg.; deserted.
- Henry Gordon, Feb. 13, 1864; 7th Reg.; deserted.
- Thomas Gorman, Aug. 30, 1862; Co. A., 25th Reg.
- John D. Griswold, Aug. 21, 1862; Co. E., 22d Reg.
- William Green, Nov. 11, 1864; 7th Reg.; not taken up on rolls.
- Wait R. Griswold, Mch. 21, 1863; 22d Reg.; 2d Asst. Surg.; credited to Durham; 86 Reg., U. S.; Colored troops.
- Nathan Hale, Aug. 7, 1862; Co. A., 16th Reg.; died Oct. 12th, 1862, at Baltimore.
- Michael Halliman, Nov. 25, 1861; Co. G., 9th Reg.
- Wm. F. Hammond, Apl. 9th, 1864; Co. M., 1st Reg. Cav.
- Thos. N. Hanmer, Aug. 25, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- Edward Harker, Aug. 24, 1862; Co. E., 22d Reg.
- Edward Harlow, Dec. 22, 1861; Co. A., 13 Reg.; Dec. 23, 1863; Co. H., 1st Heavy Art.
- Charles Harris, Feb. 13, 1864; 2d Heavy Art.; not taken up on rolls.
- Henry H. Harris, Nov. 14, 1861; Co. H., 11th Reg.; wounded; Sgt.; wd. 18 June, 1864, at Petersburg, Va.
- Almon J. Hart, Aug. 18, 1862; Co. B., 21st Reg.
- Lorin J. Hastings, Aug. , 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- Andrew Hayworth, Nov. 11, 1864; Co. H., 7th Reg.
- Hugh Heath, Aug. 30, 1862; Co. A., 25th Reg.
- Ralph H. Hills, Dec. 12th, 1861; Co. F., 12th Reg.; musician, re-enlisted; wounded.
- Martin Hogan, Dec. 22, 1861; Co. E., 13th Reg.
- John M. Holden, Dec. 19, 1861; Co. B., 12th Reg.; Corp'l; d. 20 Sept., 1863.
- John Hollister, Oct. 22, 1861; Co. C., 10th Reg.; re-enlisted.
- John Holt, Sept. 11, 1862; Co. A., 25th Reg.
- John Howard, Feb. 12th, 1864; Co. I., 7th Reg.; wd. 20 Sept., 1864, at Chapin's Farms, Va.
- Gideon M. Hubbard, Oct. 1, 1861; Co. E., 10th Reg.
- William Hubbard, Sept. 7, 1861; Co. B., 7th Reg.; died at Hilton Head, Oct. 8, 1862.
- James Hunt, Nov. 12, 1862; Co. B., 25th Reg.; deserted.
- Wm. E. Joy, Feb. 12, 1864; Co. M., 2d Heavy Art.; deserted.
- Fred R. Jenks, Sept. 30, 1861; Co. E., 10th Reg.
- George Jenks, Nov. 10, 1862; Co. B., 25th Reg.; deserted.
- Ira Jennings, Dec. 29, 1863; Co. L., 1st Heavy Art.; deserted; artificer.
- Robt. W. Joiner, Aug. 15, 1862; Co. G., 20th Reg.
- Charles Jones, Aug. 27, 1863; Co. G., 5th Reg.; deserted.
- Henry Jones, Nov. 19, 1864; 14th Reg.; deserted.
- William Johnson, Jan. 4, 1864; Co. A., 2d Heavy Art.
- Edward P. Joyner, Sept. 1, 1862; Co. D., 22d Reg.
- Francis Kearney, Nov. 11, 1864; Co. G., 7th Reg., Corp'l.
- Michael Kelley, Sept. 3, 1863; Co. C., 8th Reg.; captured May 16, 1864.
- Horace R. Kellogg, Aug. , 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.; re-enl. Jan. 5, 1864; Co. I., 1st Heavy Art.; died July 26th, 1864, at Regt. Hospital.
- Robert H. Kellogg, Aug. 11, 1862; Co. A., 16 Reg.; sergeant; prom. sgt. major.
- Charles Kennedy, Dec. 22, 1864; Co. I, 1st Heavy Art.; deserted.
- Thos. H. Kennedy, Apl. 22, 1861; Rifle Co. A., 1st Regt.; musician.
- John L. Kergresser, Sept. 3, 1863; Co. A., 8th Reg.; wd. May, 1864; deserted.
- Michael Kerrigan, Nov. 18, 1864; Co. H., 10th Reg.; deserted.

- Franklin Kilby, Aug. 14, 1862; Co. B., 21st Reg.
 Franklin E. Kilby, Sept. 5, 1862; Co. A., 25th Reg.
 Wyllys Kilby, Aug. 21, 1862; Co. A., 25th Reg.
 Dwight Kneeland, Aug. 23, 1862; Co. A., 16th Reg.; trans. to Signal Corps; Sgt.
 James D. Lamphere, Oct. 21, 1862; Co. H., 7th Reg.; Corp'l; wd. 16 Aug., 1864, at Deep Run, Va.
 Thomas Lantry, Dec. 23, 1863; Co. H., 1st Heavy Art.
 John McLaughlin, enl. fm. Suffield, Feb. 16, 1864; Co. B., 7th Reg.; trans., 28 Apl., 1864, to U. S. Navy; served in U. S. strs. *Minnesota* and *Malverne*.
 George Lewis, Feb. 20, 1864; 8th Reg.; enl. fm. Mansfield, Ct.
 Henry B. Lewis, Nov. 19, 1864; Co. F., 1st Heavy Art.
 John Lightfoot, Feb. 9, 1864; Co. C., 3rd Reg.; colored; Co. D., 31st Conn. U. S. col. troops.
 Henry Lindon, Feb. 22, 1862; Co. E., 22d Reg.
 Frederick Linemyer, Sept. 4, 1863; Co. F., 8th Reg.; deserted.
 Thomas Loftus, Apl. 7, 1864; Co. H., 12th Reg.; deserted.
 William Long, Feb. 20, 1864; Co. B., 8th Reg.; killed, Cold Harbor, June 2, 1864.
 Amenzo R. Lyon, Aug. 27, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
 John M. Lyon, Jan. 4, 1864; Co. K., 1st Reg. Cav.; Sgt.
 James M. Madison, Dec. 15, 1863; Co. C., 20th Reg.; Col. Reg.
 Wm. A. Magill, Aug. 28, 1862; 25th Reg.; hospital steward.
 James Maloy, Nov. 18, 1864; Co. H., 10th Reg.; deserted.
 Frederick Maroney, Apl. 7, 1864; Co. H., 12th Reg.; deserted; wounded at Winchester, Va., 19 Sept., 1864.
 John Martin, Aug. 25, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
 Patrick McAlloon, Sept. 27, 1861; Co. G., 9th Reg.; died Aug. 14, 1862, at New Orleans.
 John McCannon, Feb. 15, 1864; 7th Reg.; deserted.
 James McNamara, Jan. 11, 1864; Co. K., 1st Heavy Art.
 Abram Merchant, Dec. 10, 1863; Co. C., 29th Reg.; deserted.
 Gaylord Morgan, Aug. 30, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
 Guy S. Morgan, May 11, 1861; Rifle Co. A., 3rd Reg.; re-enlisted in Co. A., 8th Reg.
 Stephen Morgan, Jun., Aug. 25, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
 John M. Morris, 26 Apl., 1862. chaplain 8th Reg.; resign. 29 Sept., 1863; cred. to New Haven.
 Charles Morton, Nov. 19, 1864; Co. F., 10th Reg.; deserted.
 Wm. W. Morton, July 15, 1862; Co. B., 21st Reg., Corp'l wd. at Cold Harbor, Va., 3 June, 1864.
 James Moor, Sept. 9, 1863; Co. J., 8th Reg.; deserted.
 Joseph Murphy, Jan. 4, 1864; Co. F., 21st Reg.; trans. to 10th Reg.
 Thomas Murphy, Nov. 19, 1864; Co. D., 1st Heavy Art.; deserted.
 Joshua Oliver, Dec. 15, 1863; Co. C., 29th Reg.; colored; d. 5 Oct., 1865.
 John L. Osgood, Aug. 30, 1862; Co. D., 22d Reg.
 Wm. H. Palmer, Apl. 1, 1864; Co. G., 1st Reg. Cav.
 John Phelan, Mch. 17, 1864; Co. A., 8th Reg.; killed at Cold Harbor June 9th, 1863.
 John H. Phelps, 23 Sept., 1861. 1st Sgt. Co. B., 21 Batt., 14 Reg., U. S. A.; wounded.
 William Power, Aug. 28, 1863; Co. I, 5th Reg.; deserted.
 Wm. H. Price, Mch. 24, 1864; 11th Reg.; deserted, fm. Hartford.
 Wm. E. Quigley, Sept. 9, 1862; Co. E., 22d Reg.
 Alfred H. Recor, Dec. 31, 1863; Co. H., 1st Heavy Art.
 James Reed, Nov. 19, 1864; 14th Reg.; deserted.
 Patrick Reynolds, Jan. 22, 1862; Co. A., 13th Reg.; deserted.
 Chas. W. Rhodes, May 11, 1861; Rifle Co. A., 3rd Reg.

- Henry W. Rhodes, Aug. 16, 1862; Co. A., 16th Reg.; Corporal; deserted.
- Frederick Richards, Nov. 1, 1861; Co. E., 10th Reg.; Sgt.
- Samuel Richards, Feb. 15, 1864; Co. C., 7th Reg.
- James Rogers, June 17, 1862; Co. E., 14th Reg.; died at Salisbury, N. C., Feb. 28, 1865.
- John Riley, Feb. 16, 1864; Co. B., 7th Reg.; captured June 2d, 1864.
- Henry Rising, Nov. 12, 1861; Co. C., 11th Reg.; killed at Sharpsburg, Sept. 17, 1862.
- Caleb B. Root, Aug. 12, 1862; Co. F., 7th Reg.; died Meh. 13, 1864.
- John E. Root, Aug. 27, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- John Ryan, Sept. 9, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.
- Joseph Ryan, Nov. 19, 1864; Co. H., 10th Reg.
- Wm. H. Sherman, Oct. 18, 1864; Co. F., 7th Reg.
- David Simpson, Sept. 5, 1863; Co. K., 8th Reg.; trans. to U. S. Navy.
- Sylvester Skinner, Sept. 11, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.
- James Smith, Dec. 4, 1863; Co. H., 29th Reg.; colored; mustered out 24 Oct., 1865.
- James Smith, Aug. 26, 1864, Co. F., 7th Reg.
- James A. Smith, Aug. 30, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
- John Smith, Sept. 5, 1863; Co. K., 8th Reg.; deserted; w'd 3 June, 1864, at Cold Harbor, Va.
- John H. Smith, Feb. 12, 1864; Co. I., 7th Reg.
- Joseph Smith, Feb. 12, 1864; Co. B., 7th Reg.
- Peter Smith, Sept. 8, 1863; Co. E., 14th Reg.; wounded.
- Joel Snyder, Sept. 28, 1864; Co. A., 8th Reg.
- Francis Southergill, Jan. 5, 1864; Co. K., 2d Heavy Art.; mustered out 6 Sept., 1865; w'd 1 June, 1864, at Cold Harbor, Va.
- John Staub, Sept. 8, 1863; Co. K., 14th Reg.; died Dec. 21, 1864; camp parole.
- Abel Steele, 24 Jan., 1862, Co. I., 12th Reg.; cred. to Berlin.
- Austin N. Steele, Aug. 7, 1862; Co. F., 14th Reg.
- Edward Steele, June 1, 1863; Co. G., 1st Heavy Art.
- John W. Steele, Nov. 21, 1864; Co. H., 14th Reg.; Co. C., 2d Heavy Art.; and transf. 12th Reg.
- Oliver L. Steele, Aug. 25, 1862; Co. A., 25th Reg.
- Samuel Steele, Dec. 11, 1861; Co. K., 11th Reg.
- Sylvester W. Steele, July 18, 1862; Co. F., 14th Reg.; killed Dec. 13, 1862, Fredericksburg.
- Hudson H. Stoddard, July 22, 1861; Co. G., 5th Reg.
- John Tyler, Nov. 21, 1864; Co. F., 11th Reg.; deserted.
- Allen Thrasher, Nov. 14, 1861; Co. H., 11th Reg.; re-enlisted.
- Michael Tracy, July 25, 1862; Co. C., 16th Reg.
- Williams Travers, Feb. 8, 1864; Co. L. 2nd Heavy Art.
- Isaac B. Truitt, Jan. 11, 1864; Co. B., 30th Reg.; colored; Sgt.
- F. Dixon Tucker, July 21, 1862; Co. A., 16th Reg.; deserted.
- Louis O. Vischer, Feb. 15, 1864; Co. B., 7th Reg.; deserted.
- Horace Wadsworth, Sept. 7, 1861; Co. B., 7th Reg.
- Lucius Wadsworth, 16 July, 1862, Co. F., 14 Reg.; d. 13 Sept., 1862, at Baltimore; cred. to New Britain.
- Francis Wales, Sept. 1, 1863; Co. D., 8th Reg.; shot for desertion.
- Abner S. Warner, July 28, 1862; 16th Reg.; surgeon; resign. 7 Jan., 1863.
- Henry W. Webb, Sept. 8, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.
- Charles B. Wells, Aug. 19, 1862; Co. H., 14th Reg.; deserted.
- Henry C. Welles, Nov. 26, 1861; Co. C., 1st Reg. Cav.
- Edward D. Welles, Sept. 7, 1861; Co. B., 7th Reg.; Qr. Mstr. sgt.

Chas. H. Whaples, March 5, 1862; Co. L., 1st Heavy Art.; sgt.
 George H. Whaples, Dec. 13, 1861; Co. K., 11th Reg.
 Henry N. Whaples, Aug. 15, 1862; Co. K., 20th Reg.
 Joseph Whaples, Aug. 30, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
 Henry A. White, Aug. 11, 1862; Co. C., 16th Reg.
 Alex H. Wilson, Jan. 5, 1864; Co. F., 1st Heavy Art.; corp'l.
 Wellman B. Wiers, Aug. 30, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.
 Charles L. Willard, July 27, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.; sgt.
 Eugene B. Willard, Aug. 28, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.; died 21 Apl., 1863, at Arlington, Va.
 Chas. W. Williams, Nov. 13, 1862; Co. C. 5th Reg.; deserted.
 Michael Williams, Nov. 19, 1864; Co. I., 8th Reg.; deserted.
 Walter Wilson, Feb. 11, 1864; Co. I., 11th Reg.
 Conrad Witt, Sept. 8, 1863; Co. D., 14th Reg.; w'd 27 Nov., 1863, at Mine Run, Va.
 Anthony Wright, Aug. 30; 1862; Co. B., 22 Reg.
 Edward G. Woodhouse, Aug. 25, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.; second Lieutenant.
 Herbert H. Woodhouse, Aug. 25, 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.

Volunteers in Civil War, from ROCKY HILL.—From the report of the Adjutant-General of the State; and from Notes by Dr. R. W. Griswold. Italicized matter in the following list are from the latter source.

In the War of the Rebellion, Rocky Hill, as it appears from the rolls of the Adjutant-General's office, contributed 110 soldiers to the union army. Of these six were Blacks. The number reported to have died in the service was twelve. We have no *data* for determining how many of those credited to Rocky Hill were natives of other places; nor, on the other hand, how many of her sons are credited on the quotas of other towns or places.

Charles Arnold, (s. Talcott A.)
 James Armstrong, Nov. 23, 1864; Co. C., 10th Reg.; deserted.
 Elizur D. Belden (s. *Chester*) Aug. 11, 1862; Co. C., 16th Reg.; died Nov. 1864; Florence, S. C.; *bu. Ry-Hill*.
 Geo. E. Belden, Sept. 8, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.; *deserted 28 Nov.*
 George F. Belden, (son of Asa) Sept. 9, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.; *disch. 24 July, 1862; enl. Head Qr. Troops; d. 15 June, 1887, at Ry-H.*
 John S. Blinn, Co. B., 2d Reg.; died 16th Apl. 1863, ae. 53.
 Wadsworth T. Blynn, (s. *John*), *enl. from Midd. in Rifle Co. D., 7 May; d. 25 Aug., 1861, ae. 29; bu. Ry-Hill.*
 Lemuel H. Boardman, (son of *Jason*), May 7, 1861; Rifle Co. D., 2d Reg.; *disch. 7 Aug., 1861.*
 Andrew J. Boardman, (s. *Jason*), *d. 9 Oct., 1867, ae. 32.*
 James Boardman, (s. *Jason*), May 23, 1861; Co. E., 1st Heavy Art.; *disch. 22 May, 1864.*
 Frederick Boardman, (s. *Jason*), Sept. 25, 1861; Co. E., 8th Reg.; *re-enlisted as Vet., 24 Dec., 1863.*
 William Brown, Nov. 23, 1864; Co. H., 10th Reg.; *deserted.*
 Fred R. Butler, Sept. 8, 1862; Co. G., 24th Reg.; *disch. 30 Sept., 1863.*
 Nathan Camp, Jany. 2, 1864; Co. C., 29th Reg.; colored Reg.
 Samuel Collins, *bu. Ry-Hill.*

- Martin V. Culver, Aug. 18, 1862; Co. A., 16th Reg.
- Lorenzo D. Culver, (s. *David*), Co. H., 11th Conn. Reg.; d. 1 *Apl.*, 1866, *ae.* 21.
- Otis Culver, Dec. 16, 1863; Co. K., 10th Reg.; died 7 *May*, 1866, *ae.* 26; *bu.* *Ry-H.*
- Fred D. Culver, (s. *David*), Co. H., 11th Conn.; d. 6 *Oct.*, 1862, *ae.* 27; *bu.* *Ry-H.*
- Charles L. Deming, (s. *Linus*), Sept. 25, 1861; Co. E., 8th Reg.; *re-enl. as Vet.*, 24 *Dec.*, 1863.
- John E. Deming, Aug. 11, 1862; Co. F., 16th Reg.; died *Mch.* 10, 1865, *Wilmington, N. C.*
- John H. Deming, (s. *Erastus*), May 7, 1861; Rifle Co. D, 2d Reg.; *disch.* 7 *Aug.*, 1861.
- Charles Depth, Sept. 20, 1864; 29th Reg.; Col. Reg.
- James Driscoll, Jan. 2, 1864; Co. A., 1st Heavy Art.; *deserted* 16 *Jan.* *Not of Ry-Hill.*
- Jerome Evans, Sept. 25, 1861; Co. E., 8th Reg.; *re-enl. as Vet.* 24 *Dec.*, 1863.
- William Evans, Sept. 2, 1862; Co. I., 5th Reg.; *deserted* 17 *Sept.*; *substitute; not a resident.*
- William Funin, Nov. 26, 1864; Co. K., 10th Reg.; *deserted.*
- Martin L. Gardner, Sept. 19, 1864; Co. G., 1st Heavy Art.
- Charles A. Goodrich, (s. *Sylvester*), d. 3 *Apl.*, 1868, *ae.* 28; *bu.* *Ry-H.*
- Burritt Goodrich, July 28, 1862; Co. B., 16th Reg.
- Rennsalaer Goodale.
- Edward Goodrich, Feb. 22, 1862; 7th Reg. *Sent South, but never reached Regiment.*
- George P. Goodrich, (s. *Jeremy*), Aug. 19, 1861; Co. B., 1st Squad Cav.; died at *Andersonville, being then of Co. D., 2d N. Y. Cav., ae.* 27.
- Jeremy Goodrich, Aug. 7, 1862; Co. C., 16th Reg.; d. Sept. 1, 1864.
- Walter S. Goodrich, May 7, 1861; Rifle Co. D., 2d Reg., *disch.* 7 *Aug.*, 1861.
- Leonard A. Green, (s. *William B.*) Aug. 11, 1862; Co. F. 16 Reg.; died Dec. 20, 1862, *Falmouth, Va.*
- Jeremy Griswold, (s. *Jeremy*), 7 *Aug.*, 1862; *died in Andersonville prison, 1 Sept., 1864, ae.* 29.
- Sylvester Griswold, (s. *Fred*), *enl. fr. Cromwell, 5th Mil. Co. I., 3rd Sept., 1862; trans. to V. & R. Corps., 8 May, 1862.*
- Daniel C. Griswold, (s. *Albro*), Aug. 8, 1862; Co. 6, 16th Reg.; *prisoner.*
- James P. Hamilton, *Apl.* 22, 1861; Rifle Co. A., 1st Reg.; *disch.* 31 *July*, 1861.
- Albert S. Hatch, Aug. 7, 1862; Co. A., 16th Reg.; *wounded; died* 2 *May*, 1863, *ae.* 30.
- William Holden, (s. *Eber*), May 7, 1861; Rifle Co. D., 2d Reg.; *disch.* 7 *Aug.*; *re-enl.* Sept. 8, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.; *deserted.*
- Henry C. Holmes, Sept. 9, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.; *disch.* 26 *Aug.*, 1863.
- Daniel R. Hopkins, Aug. 5, 1862; Co. A., 16th Reg.; *disch. disability, 31 Jan., 1863.*
- Amos L. Hotchkiss, 22 *Apl.* 1861; Co. D., 1st Conn. Reg.; *cred. to Waterbury, Ct.; disch.* 31 *July*, 1861.
- Henry Hotchkiss, Sept. 7, 1862; Co. D., 25th Reg.; *drummer; disch.* 26 *Aug.*, 1863.
- Thomas Hunter, Dec. 6, 1864; Co. F., 10th Reg.
- James Johnson, Jan. 5, 1864; 5th Reg.; *deserted; substitute; not a resident.*
- James Kelley, Jan. 5, 1864; 5th Reg.; *not taken up on rolls.*
- Horace R. Kelley (s. *Franklin*) *enl. from Weth., 25 Aug., 1862; Co. B., 22d Reg.; disch.* 7 *July*, 1863; *re-enlisted* 5 *Jan.*, 1864, *Co. I., 1st Reg. Heavy Art.*
- Norman Kellogg (s. *Franklin*) Jan. 22, 1862; Co. F., 13th Reg.
- Otis F. Kellogg, (s. *Franklin*), Aug. 25, 1863; Co. B., 22d Reg.; *disch.* 7 *July*, 1863.
- Wm. M. Kellogg, May 16, 1864; Co. I., 1st Heavy Art.
- Wm. W. Kellogg, Sept. 9, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.
- Henry Ladue, Nov. 28, 1864; 1st Light Battery; *trans. to 11th Reg.*
- Franklin H. Lee, Jan. 2, 1864; Co. A., 1st Heavy Art.

Donald LeVaughn, (s. *William*), Sept. 25, 1861; Co. E., 8th Reg.; wounded in *arm*.
 Roland LeVaughn, (s. *William*), Aug. 7, 1862; Co. C., 16 Reg.; died Sept. 25th, 1864.
 Wm. O. LeVaughn, 22 Apl., 1861; Co. F., Inf.; di-*ch*. 31 July, 1861; cred. to Meriden.
 Charleston.

Wm. O. LeVaughn, (s. *William*), 22 Apl., 1861; Co. F., Inf.; *disch*. 31 July, 1861;
cred. to Meriden; re-enl. Aug. 7, 1862; Co. C., 16th Reg.; died Sept. 5th,
 1864; Andersonville.

Lewis C. Lockwood, Dec. 23, 1863; Co. G., 1st Heavy Art.

Wm. H. Lockwood, Dec. 23, 1863; Co. G., 1st Heavy Art.

Eugene E. Lovejoy (s. *Frank*) Nov. 20, 1863; Co. B., 1st Reg. Cav.

John Lynch, Sept. 7, 1863; Co. I., 14th Reg.; *deserted; non-resident; substitute*.

Patrick McCarty, Dec. 6, 1864; Co. G., 6th Reg.

John Martin.

John Masterson, Sept. 21, 1864; Co. C., 15th Reg.; missing Mch. 8, 1865.

Thos. J. Montgomery, July 22, 1861; Co. F., 5th Reg.; *re-enl.* 21 Dec., 1863.

James Moore, Sept. 21, 1864; Co. C., 7th Reg.; *deserted*.

John Neill, Nov. 25, 1864; Co. K., 10th Reg.

Michael Nolan, Aug. 23 (or 31), 1863; Co. M., 1st Heavy Art.; *non-resident; substitute*.

Hosea Omonco, Nov. 26, 1864; Co. K., 10th Reg.; *deserted*.

James O'Connor, Aug. 28, 1863; Co. I., 5th Reg.; *non-resident; substitute*.

Franklin G. Peck, July 31, 1862; Co. A., 16th Reg.

Wm. H. Pelton, Sept. 8, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.; *disch.* 26 Aug., 1863.

Edward Peters, Dec. 10, 1863; Co. C., 29 Reg.; colored Reg.; died Nov. 17, 1864,
 at Jones Landing.

Thomas G. Porter, 8 Sept., 1862; Co. H., 28th Reg.; *disch.* 26 Aug., 1863.

Patrick Regan, *enl.* 28 Aug., 1863.; *non-resident; substitute*.

John Richardson, Sept. 9, 1863; Co. G., 14th Reg.; *deserted. prob. substitute*.

Thos. H. Robbins, Sept. 8, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.; corporal.

Benj. A. Robinson, (s. *Ashbel*), *enl. from Htfd.* 11 May; *disch.* 12 Aug., 1861; *re-en-*
listed as Vet. 22 Dec., 1863; Sept. 7, 1861, Co. B., 7th Reg.

Eli Rodman, Feb. 29, 1864; Co. G., 29th Reg.; Col. Reg.

Patrick Ryan, Jan. 5, 1864; 5th Reg.; not taken up on rolls.

Ferdinand E. Sage, Sept. 9, 1862; Co. B., 25th Reg.; *disch.* 26 Aug., 1863.

Henry M. Sage, Aug. 13, 1862; Co. A., 16th Reg.

Erbin K. Sanford, Jan. 7, 1862; Co. F., 13th Reg.; *disch., disability*, 5 June, 1863.

John Shipmaker, (s. *Francis*), Oct. 7, 1861; Co. E., 8th Reg.; *disch., disability*, 13
 Apl., 1864.

George M. Smith, (s. *Mason*), Aug. 9, 1862; Co. C., 16th Reg.; *disch., disability*, d.
 5 Jan., 1863, in *service; bu. in Ry-Hill*.

John Smith, Sept. 21, 1864; Co. H., 29th Reg.; Col. Reg.

Peter G. Smith, Dec. 6, 1864; Co. I., 6th Reg.

David D. Stevens, Sept. 9, 1862; Co. B., 25th Reg.; *disch.* 26 Aug., 1863.

Gilbert H. Stowe, Sept. 30, 1861; Co. E., 8th Reg.; d. 13 Apl., 1862.

Henry D. Stevens, Aug. 11, 1862; Co. F., 16th Reg.; *re-enl.* Oct. 6, 1862; Co. B.,
 25th Reg.

Henry R. (s. *Davis R.*) *enl.* Co. F., 16th Reg., 11 Aug., 1862; *disch.*; *re-enl.* 25 Oct.,
 1862 in Co. B., 25th Reg.; *disch.* 26th Nov., 1863.

Justus R. Stevens, Sept. 9, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.; was in service, but not on
 Muster Roll.

William Stevens, Aug. 2, 1863; Co. M., 1st Heavy Art.; *deserted; substitute*.

William Sugden, Aug. 6, 1862; Co. A., 16th Reg.; *died in the service*.

Henry W. Taylor, Oct. 10, 1861; Co. E., 8th Reg.; rejected 2 Nov.

- John Thompson, Sept. 7th, 1863; Co. I., 14th Reg.; transf. to U. S. Navy.
- John L. Thompson, Aug. 10, 1863; Co. I., 14th Reg.; deserted; substitute, non-resident.
- William Thompson, 2d, Sept. 8, 1863; Co. I., 14th Reg.; transf. to U. S. navy; substitute, non-resident.
- William Thompson, 3d, Sept. 22, 1863; Co. I., 14th Reg.; transf. to U. S. navy; substitute, non-resident.
- Albert C. Tryon, (s. *Abijah*) May 7, 1861; Rifle Co. D., 2d Reg.; disch. 7 Aug., 1861.
- James Walsh, Dec. 6, 1864; Co. B., 10th Reg.
- John Ward, Dec. 17, 1864; Co. F., 10th Reg.; deserted.
- Marshall J. Warren, *d.* 29 Nov., 1863, *ae.* 24; *bu.* Ry-Hill.
- Horace M. Warner (s. *Walter*), Aug. 9, 1862; Co. C., 16th Reg.; died Oct. 24, 1864; *bu.* Ry-Hill.
- Marshall J. Warner, Sept. 8, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.
- Chas. H. Waterman, Aug. 9, 1862; Co. F., 16th Reg.; died at home Nov. 17, 1862; Rocky Hill; *from wd. res'd at Sharpsburg, Va.*
- John A. Waterman, Sept. 25, 1861; Co. E., 8th Reg.; rejected Nov. 2; re-enl. Aug. 18, 1863; Co. C., 14th Reg.; *non-resident, substitute.*
- Edgar W. Webb, (s. *Henry*) Feb. 1, 1862; Co. F., 13th Reg.
- Henry W. Webb, (s. *Henry*), 8 Sept., 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.; disch. 16 Aug., 1863; *cr. to Weth.*
- William Leroy Webb, (s. *Henry*), May 7, 1861; Rifle Co. D., 2d Reg.; disch. 7 Aug., re-enl. Jan. 2, 1862; Co. F., 13th Reg.; Vet. Feb. 8, 1864.
- Martin Whaples, Sept. 9, 1862; Co. B., 25th Reg.
- John White, enl. 7 Aug., 1862; Co. C., 16th Reg.
- William Whitmore, (s. *Sylvester*), Sept. 25, 1861; Co. E., 8th Reg.; disch. 1 Aug., 1862; *d.* 21 Sept., 1862; *bu.* Ry-Hill.
- Henry B. Whitford, (s. *Wm. H.*), Sept. 9, 1862; Co. B., 25th Reg.; *deserted* Nov. 12.
- Chas. W. Williams (Corp'l) (s. *Charles*), May 7, 1861; Rifle Co. D., 2d Reg., disch. 7 Aug.; re-enl. Feb. 1, 1862; Co. F., 13th Reg.; sergeant; disch. for disability, 26 Aug., 1862.
- Henry C. Williams, (s. *Moses*) Aug. 8, 1862; Co. C., 16th Reg.; promoted.
- Horace (s. *Horace*) Williams, Aug. 8, 1862; Co. C., 16th Reg.; transf. to 20th Reg., 2d Lieut.; *resigned* 11 Feb., 1873.
- Wm. C. Williams, (s. *Andrew*) Aug. , 1862; Co. L., 16th Reg.; died Oct. 14, 1864, as 2d Lt. Co. L., 21st Conn., Newbern, N. C.
- Wm. C. Williams, July 6, 1865, 30th Reg.; colored Reg.; Captain.
- Geo. W. Wright, Aug. 11, 1862; Co. F., 16th Reg.; disch., disability, 7 Feb., 1864.
- Marshall S. Wright, (s. *Justus*), Sept. '8, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.; disch. 25 Aug., 1863.
- Lewis F. Wright, (s. of *Justus*) Sept. 8, 1862; Co. H., 25th Reg.; disch. 26 Aug., 1863.

The WETHERSFIELD VETERAN ASSOCIATION was organized June 24, 1882, with these officers:

President and Commander, E. G. Woodhouse.

Vice President, F. T. Chapman.

Secretary and Treasurer, T. N. Hammer.

The objects were (as in their constitution):

1. "To preserve and strengthen those fraternal feelings which should bind together the soldiers and sailors who united to suppress the late Rebellion.

2. "To perpetuate the memory and history of the dead by a proper observance of Memorial day, on the thirtieth day of May, annually, in decorating the graves of our fallen comrades in commemoration of their deeds."

To this organization, in time, succeeded the JOHN M. MORRIS POST, G. A. R.

In the Spanish-American War the following persons served:

•J. Edward Rowe, machinist on the auxiliary cruiser, *St. Paul*.

Richard W. Delamater, Lieut. Co. K, 1st Conn. Regt. Vols.

Edward Smith, U. S. Cavalry Vols., in Philippine Islands.

Michael Grogan, 28th Regt., U. S. Infantry, in Philippine Islands.

Henry R. Buck, Naval Reserves, 2d Conn. Div.

James D. Wells, Naval Reserves, 2d Conn. Div.

Joseph P. Rhodes, New Mexico or Arizona Regt., at Cuba.

Hudson A. Steele, seaman on *U. S. S. Indiana*, at Santiago.

Clinton Steele, drummer in 1st Regt. Conn. Vols.

Clarence W. Steele, seaman on *U. S. S. Baltimore*, at Manilla; enlisted Aug. 3, 1894, on *U. S. S. Minnesota*, and served on the *Texas* and the *Philadelphia*; transferred to the *Baltimore*, Oct. 16, 1897; left Honolulu, H. I., Mch. 25, 1898, to join Dewey's fleet at Hong Kong, China; left Manilla, Mch. 23, 1899, in the *Buffalo* for N. Y., via the Suez Canal; discharged from the *Buffalo* and the service, May 20, 1899.

CHAPTER XVII

MISCELLANEA WETHERSFIELDIANA.

Witchcraft—Leonard Chester's Adventure—A Mysterious Pot of Money—The Strange Story of Elizabeth Canning—Grave Robbing—The Beadle Murders, 1783—Slaves and Slavery in Wethersfield—Floods, Earthquakes and Conflagrations—Odd Names of Wethersfield Localities—Old-Time Fishing in the Connecticut River—Old Homes, Taverns and Furniture—The Old Elm—Wethersfield as seen by Strangers at Various Times.

[BY SHERMAN W. ADAMS, ESQ., AND HENRY R. STILES, M. D.]

AS IN AN OLD HOUSE the *garret* is generally the "catch-all" for old or disused furniture and "belongings" which are out of date, and which comport neither with the comfort or dignity of the rest of the house—so, every Town History must have some such chapter as this, in which may be gathered the "odds and ends," the "unconsidered trifles"—stray bits of fact or tradition, the "flotsam and jetsam" of the centuries, which fit nowhere else and can be introduced nowhere else, without disturbing the easy and dignified flow of the historic narrative.

Into this chapter, then, have we brought various (and otherwise neglected) matters relating to Wethersfield's past—such as *Witchcraft, Adventures, Lawsuits, Crimes, Conflagrations, Disasters by Hurricane or Flood, Old Houses, Negro Slavery*, etc., etc., which may serve to interest the reader—the whole being not unlike the "grab-bag" at a Church Fair, into which, when one putteth his hand, he is in nowise certain what he shall bring forth.

WITCHCRAFT, or, as the old law-books term it, "Conjuration and Sorcery," from time immemorial has ever held a potent sway over the minds and imaginations of men. It is not, therefore, surprising that a belief in witchcraft prevailed to so great an extent, in New England, even so late as within the last two centuries; especially when we reflect that so learned a jurist as Sir William Blackstone, and so intelligent a writer as Mr. Addison, in the *Spectator*, recognized it not only as a possible, but as a punishable offense. And it may be also remarked, that the death penalty provided for it by the General Court of Con-

necticut, in 1642, was in conformity with the Mosaic Code¹ and directly borrowed from the English Common Law, of that period.

It should be understood, however that while two persons at least were executed in Connecticut for witchcraft, and that there are some others concerning whom doubt exists among historians as to whether they were thus executed or not—it is yet certain that the *Connecticut* Colony was not swept by the whirlwind of superstition which disturbed the Massachusetts Colony—although there were those here who held to it.

Whether a greater "leaven of unrighteousness" worked in the hearts and consciences of Wethersfield people, than in those of the dwellers in the other river towns of the Colony, we wot not. It may be, indeed, that the religious dissensions and disturbances which signalized Wethersfield's earlier years, did engender in the community a mental condition which predisposed them more readily to "entertain familiarity with Sathan, the Great Enemy of Mankind," than otherwise they would have done. But, certain it is, as appeareth of record, that Wethersfield enjoys the unenviable distinction of having furnished a majority of the *proven* (?) cases of witchcraft occurring in Connecticut—i. e., excluding the well known New Haven cases.

The first of these Wethersfield cases was that of MARGARET JOHNSON, against whom the Particular Court, in session at Hartford, December 7th, 1648, brought this serious charge, in the following terms, "The jury finds the Bill of Indictment against Mary Johnson, that by her owne confession she is guilty of familiarity with the Deuill."² That she was of Wethersfield may be safely assumed from the fact that, previously, she had been severely dealt with by the Court, which August 21st, 1646, had ordered that "Mary Johnson, for thenery is to be pr^esently whipped, and to be brought forth a month hence, at Wethersfield, and there whipped."³ This was in accordance with the custom of the times, whereby the culprit received a portion of his or her punishment in the Town of their residence for the better effect upon his or her immediate neighbors. She was duly executed on this charge of witchcraft, and Mather,⁴ ever curious for the details of such cases,

¹ *Capitall Lawes established by the General Court, the 1st of November, 1612.*

² Yf any man or woman be a witch (that is) hath or consuiteth wth a familiar spirit, they shall be put to death. *Ex.* 22, 18; *Lev.* 20, 27; *Deut.* 18, 10-11.—*Conn. Col. Rec.* I, 77.

³ *Col. Rec. Conn.* VIII, p. 171.

⁴ *Conn. Col. Recs.* I, 143.

⁵ Mather has, perhaps, suffered somewhat in historic reputation from his connection with the Witchcraft delusion in New England. But Prof. John Fiske, in

gives (*Magnalia*, Bk. VI, pp. 71-8, example) this account of her: "There was one Mary Johnson, try'd at Hartford, in this country upon an Indictment of *Familiarity with the Devil*, and was found guilty thereof, chiefly upon her own Confession. Her confession was attended with such convictive circumstances, that it could not be slighted. Very many material Passages relating to this matter, are now lost. But so much as is well known and can still be prov'd shall be inserted. She said her first Familiarity with the Devil came through *Discontent*, and wishing the Devil to take this and that, and the Devil to do this and that thing. Whereupon a Devil appear' unto her, tendering her what *Services* might best *content* her. A Devil accordingly did for her many services. Her *Master* blamed her for not carrying out the *Ashes*, and a Devil afterwards would clear the *Hearth* of *Ashes* for her. Her *Master* sending her to drive out the *Hogs*, that sometimes broke into their *Field*, a Devil would scare the *Hogs* away, and make her laugh to see how he seiz'd them. She confessed she had murdered a child, and committed *Uncleanness* both with *Man* and with *Devils*. In the time of her *Imprisonment*, the famous Mr. Stone [Rev. Mr. S., of Hartford] was at great pains to promote her conversion from the *Devil* to *God*, and she was, by the best *Observers* Judg't very penitent both before her *Execution*, and at it, and she went out of the world with comfortable *Hopes* of *Mercy* from *God*, through the merit of our *Saviour*. Being asked what she built her *Hopes* upon, she answer's upon these Words, 'come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you Rest;' And these 'There is a *Fountain* set open for *Sin* and *Uncleanness*.' And she dy'd in a *Frame* extremely to the *Satisfaction* of them that were spectatours of it." It was probably, more satisfactory to the spectatours, than to poor Mary herself!¹

The next case was that of JOHN CARRINGTON and JOANE, his wife, who came to Wethersfield prior to 1643. He was a carpenter and they owned a homestead on the east side of Sandy Lane, next south of Thomas Standish's, near the corner of Fort Street. It was likely that Carrington was of a somewhat lawless nature, for in March, 1648-9, he was fined "£10 for bartering a gun with an Indian." On

Chapter V, of his "*New England and New France*," explains more clearly his real attitude towards the epidemic of persecution which marked that period of our early history; and also gives a very fair and succinet explanation of its causes, especially in those cases which occurred in Salem, Mass.

¹ There has been an attempt, on very doubtful authority, to fix the citizenship of this culprit on Windsor—an attempt which I had the honor of repelling in my *History* of that town.—See Vol. I, pp. 444-450, of said work.—H. R. S.

the 20th of Feb., 1650-1, he and his wife were formally indicted, separately, for witchcraft. The following is the record of the Particular Court:

"A Particular Courte in Hartford uppon the Tryall of John Carrington, and his wife, 20th February, 1650-1

Edward Hopkins, Gov.

John Haynes, Dept. Gov.; *Magistrates*

"Mr. Welles, Mr. Woolcott, Mr. Webster, Mr. Cullick, Mr. Clarke.

"*Jury*: Mr. Phelps, Mr. Tailecoat, Mr. Hollister, David Wilson, John White, Will. Lewis, Sam Smith, John Pratt, John Moore, Edw. Griswold, Steph. Hart, Tho. Judd.

Indightment

"John Carrington thou art Indited by the name of John Carrington of Wethersfield carpenter that not having the fear of God before thine eyes thou hast Intertained familiarity with Sathan, the great enemy of God and Mankind; and by his help has done works above the course of nature for w^h, both according to the laws of God and the established laws of this common wealth² thou deservest to Dye.

"The Jury finds this Inditem" against John Carrington the 6th of March, 1650-1, (The same Court, time, and place, found an Indictment also against Joanne Carrington, wife of John Carrington, with the same verdict)

"March, 1652-3, Court Record. There was presented to this Court an Inventory of John Carrington's estate which is ordered to be filed but not Recorded.

"The estate presented being £23-11-00 and the debts Specified therein oweing by the estate is sumed up £13-01-06."

JOHN HARRISON, and his wife Catharine, came to Wethersfield to live, in 1647 or '48. Their home was on the left side of High Street, next south of Thomas Wright's. The husband, a man of good repute, having held office as "town-crier" and a surveyor of highways, died in 1666, leaving three daughters (the oldest, 16 years of age), and an estate inventoried at £610. Two years after his death, the widow, Catharine, was arrested on a charge of witchcraft and tried before the Court in Hartford, October, 1668.¹ During the trial many deposi-

¹ See paper read before the Conn. Hist. Society, October 2. 1894, by Dr. C. J. Hoadley.

The following Testimony taken at the trial of Kate Harrison for Witchcraft, and copied by the late Miss Charlotte Goldthwaite, is here given to show our readers

tions were made by people who testified to the devilish things she had done. Before her marriage, she had been a house servant, and one of the daughters of the family where she had been employed made oath to her being "a notorious liar, a Sabbath breaker and a fortune teller." It was also deposed that she had caused illness to some persons, death to others; and that she had an unholy influence over animals; had been seen to appear as a calf and change back to her own shape, and that her form or face had frequently appeared at people's bedsides and other unlikely places. At this first trial, she was not convicted—owing to non-agreement of the jury. The suspicion of the public, however, was not lulled; in May, 1669, she was again arrested and jailed on a similar charge; was indicted at the following term of Court, plead not guilty and was tried before a jury. Again the jury failed to agree, and she was remanded to jail, until the Court should convene in

upon what inconceivably flimsy evidence, the victims of this delusion were generally convicted.

Richard Montague, aged about 52 years, testifieth, that meeting with Goodwife Harrison, in Wethersfield, she said that a swarm of her bees flew away over her neighbor Boreman's lot and into the great meadow and thence over the great River to Nounbuck side; but the said Katharine said she had fetched them again. This seemed very strange to the said Richard, because this was acted in a little time and he did believe the said Katharine neither went nor used any lawful means to fetch the said bees. Dated, Aug. 13, 1668, Hadley, taken upon oath before us, Henry Clark, Samuel Smith.

Joane Francis, her testimony. About 4 years ago, about the beginning of November, in the night, just before my child was struck ill, Goodwife Harrison or her shape, appeared, and I said: "The Lord bless me and my child, here is goody Harrison, and the child lying on the outside. I took it and laid it between me and my husband." The child continued strangely ill about three (3) weeks, wanting a day & then died, had fits. We felt a thing run along the sides, or side, like a whetstone. *Robert Francis* saith he remembers that night the child was taken ill [his wife said], "The Lord bless me & my child, here is Goody Harrison." *Joane Francis* saith that this summer Goody Harrison's daughter game for some emptyings. I told her I had none. Quickly after, I brewed a barrel of beer, and had drawn but a little of it & the barrel was not bunged, but the head flew out of one end & all the hoops from the bung to that end. The barrel was most a new barrel, we had it of Joseph Wright. The head and hoops flew to the end of the cellar & gave such a report as scared, or feared the children.

Goodwife Francis saith, that when goodwife Harrison appeared to her, she saw her by a light, there being then a good fire on the hearth. She stood with her back to the fire, she lying in another room. the door being just against her bed & against the fire. Sworn in Court, Oct^r 29, 1668. Attest: John Allyn, Sec. 7.

Alice, the wife of *James Wakely*, aged about or above 50 years, testifieth that being present with Mrs. Robbins, in the time of her sickness whereof Mrs. Robbins died; she did see and know that the body of Mrs. Robbins was stiff so that both she and goodwife Wright, Senior, could not move either her arms or her legs although both of them tried to move them & the same day Mrs. Robbins died then her whole body was limber extraordinary, etc., etc."

the autumn. At that term, the jury found her guilty, but the Court (of Assistants) not being satisfied, sought and obtained an expert testimony from some ministers (ministers being, in those days, supposed to know more about the Devil and his doings than ordinary folks), and still not being altogether satisfied referred the matter to the General Court. She remained in jail, until May, 1670, when the General Court ordered her to be released on payment of "the just fees" of the trial, and on condition that she should leave the colony—which undoubtedly she did gladly and with alacrity. Turning her back upon Connecticut, she went to Westchester, N. Y., but her reputation had preceded her, and the citizens of that place complained of her presence to the Governor of that Province; she was placed under bonds for her good behavior and after sometime, nothing appearing against her, she was released—*exit* Catherine Harrison from history. Evidently, the New Yorkers with their civil process of bail-bond, handled "the witch" with more wisdom and better success than the Yankees with their "expert" ministerial opinions and jury trials.

There was another Wethersfield man "who was murder'd with an hideous *Witchcraft*," though not at Wethersfield, yet being so connected with Wethersfield as that his case may somewhat appropriately be related here. This was PHILIP (son of Samuel, Sr.) SMITH and one of Wethersfield's early settlers and who married Rebecca, daughter of Nathaniel Foote, the settler. He removed to Hadley with the Rev. John Russell, Jr., in 1659, and held the commission of Lieut., and became one of the Committee of the Hopkins School at Hadley, on the records of which his death is entered in connection with the appointment of his successor. Mather's *Magnalia* (Book VI, Chapter VII) gives the following most detailed and interesting account of his death by witchery:

"Mr. Philip Smith, aged about fifty years, a Son of *eminently* Virtuous Parents, a Deacon of the church in *Hadley*, a Member of the *General Court*, a Justice in the *Countrey Court*, a select Man for the Affairs of the Town, a *Lieutenant* of the Troop, and which crowns all, a Man for *Devotion, Sanctity, Gravity*, and all that was honest, exceeding Exemplary. Such a Man was in the Winter of the Year 1684, murder'd with an hideous *Witchcraft*, that fill'd all those Parts of *New England* with *Astonishment*. He was, by his Office concern'd about relieving the *Indigence* of a wretched Woman in the Town; who being dissatisfy'd at some of his just Cares about her, express'd herself unto him in such a *manner*, that he declar'd himself thenceforward apprehensive of receiving Mischief at her hands.

"About the *Beginning of January* he began to be very *Valetudin-arious*, laboring under Pains that seem'd *Ischiatick*. The Standers by could now see in him one *ripening* apace for another World, and fill'd with Grace and Joy to an high Degree. He showed such *Weanedness* from and *Weariness* of the World, that he knew not (he said) whether he might pray for his *Continuance* here; and such assurance he had of the *Divine* Love unto him, that in raptures he would cry out *Lord, stay thy hand; it is enough, it is more than thy frail Servant can bear*. But, in the midst of these things, he still utter'd an hard Suspicion that the ill Woman who had *threatened* him, had made Impressions with *Inchantments* upon him. While he remained yet of a *Sound Mind*, he very sedately, but very solemnly charg'd his brother to look well after him. Tho', he said, he now understood himself, yet he knew not how he might be. *But be sure* (said he) *to have a care of me, for you shall see strange things. There shall be a Wonder in Hadley! I shall not be dead, when 'tis thought I am!* He press'd this Charge over and over; and afterwards became Delirious; upon which he had a *Speech incessant and voluble*, and (as was judg'd) in various Languages. He cry'd out, not only of *Pains*, but also of *Pins*, tormenting him in several parts of his Body; and the Attendants found one of them.

"In his Distresses he exclaim'd much upon the Woman aforesaid, and others, as being seen by him in the Room; and there was divers times both in that Room, and over the whole House, a strong Smell of something like *Musk*, which once particularly so scented an Apple roasting at the Fire, that it forc'd them to throw it away. Some of the young Men in the Town being out of their Wits at the strange Calamities thus upon one of their most belov'd Neighbors went three or four times to give disturbance unto the Woman thus complain'd of; And all the while they were disturbing her, he was at ease, and slept as a weary Man: Yea, these were the only times that they perceiv'd him to take any sleep in all his Illness. *Gally-pots of Medicines* provided for the sick Man, were unaccountably empty'd; audible Scratchings were made about the Bed, when his Hands and Feet lay wholly still, and were held by others. They beheld Fire sometimes on the Bed; and when the Beholders began to discourse of it, it vanish'd away. Divers People actually felt something often stir in the Bed, at a considerable distance from the Man; it seem'd as big as a Cat, but they could never grasp it. Several trying to lean on the Bed's head, tho' the sick Man lay wholly still, the Bed would shake so, as to knock their Heads uncomfortably. A very strong Man could not lift the sick Man to make him lie more

easily, tho' he apply'd his utmost Strength unto it; and yet he could go presently and lift a Bedstead and a Bed, and a Man lying on it, without any Strain to himself at all. *Mr. Smith* dies: The Jury that view'd his Corpse, found a Swelling on one *Breast*, his *Privities* wounded or burn'd, his *Back* full of Bruises, and several Holes that seem'd made with *Awls*. After the *Opinion* of all had pronounc'd him dead, his Countenance continued as Lively as if he had been Alive; his Eyes closed as in a Slumber, and his *Nether Jaw* not falling down.

"Thus he remain'd from *Saturday Morning* about Sunrise, till *Sabbath-day* in the Afternoon: when those who took him out of the Bed, found him still warm, tho' the Season was as cold as had almost been known in any Age: And a *New England Winter* does not want for Cold. On the Night following his *Countenance* was yet fresh as before: but on *Monday morning*, they found the Face extremely *tumify'd* and discolour'd. It was black and blue, and fresh Blood seem'd *running* down his Cheek upon the Hairs. Divers Noises were also heard in the Room where the Corpse lay, as the Clattering of *Chairs* and *Stools*, whereof no account could be given. This was the End of so good a Man. And I could with *unquestionable Evidence* relate the Tragical Deaths of several *Good Men* in this Land, attended with such *praternatural Circumstances*, which have loudly call'd upon us to *work out our Salvation with Fear and Trembling*."—*H. R. S.*]

MR. LEONARD CHESTER'S ADVENTURE.—Prominent among the old-time legends with which Wethersfield mothers and nurses were wont to regale their children, was this "o'er true tale."

Mr. Chester's social and civil position, his wealth, enterprise and popularity among the earliest settlers of the town, gave to his unpleasant experience upon the mountain west of the town an importance which would, perhaps, have attached to no other person in the community. Sometime, presumably in the Fall of 1636, he set out alone (as Tradition saith) to seek a suitable site for a grist-mill which he proposed to build, on the stream which flows through the south part of the town. This mill—it may be remarked—was erected by him the next year (1637) and one has been maintained on about the same site ever since. His exploration took him, or would naturally do so, to near the source of the stream, southwest of the village of Griswoldville of the present day. This whole section traversed by the stream was, of course, then an unbroken wilderness. It may be, also, that Mr. Chester *unintentionally* pushed his journey to the upper waters of the Mattabesett, which, in fact, he crossed. This, however,

seems hardly probable, since a journey of that kind, undertaken alone, would have been, in those days, almost foolhardy. At all events, before the young explorer had made such progress on his return journey as to strike upon any well-defined trail or path which he might follow in the dark, night had fairly closed upon him, and he entirely lost his bearings—for even the north polar star was shut out from his sight, by the dense foliage. So, when, at last, day broke, he was really further away from his home than when he had started to return to it; and yet it was possible (so he must have fancied) that he might have *gone by* the village, and must retrace—if he could—the steps he had taken during the night. In the meantime, his neighbors at Pyquaug had become alarmed at his continued absence; and parties, with drums, muskets, pails and pans of tin-ware, copper or brass—anything, in fact, with which to make noisy sounds and signals—had begun to search the woods, in all directions. It was not, however, *until the third day after he left his home* on Broad Street, that he was found and, in fact, rescued from starvation by his friends. In his uncertainty as to his whereabouts and place of destination, Chester had dragged himself, with failing strength and in famished condition, to the summit of a mountainous peak or ridge, in the extreme southeast part of what is now Berlin Township. From that place, a distance which, measured in a straight line, would be *very near twelve miles from where he started*, he hoped to be able to see, if he might not be able to reach, the little settlement which held all that was dear to him. The result was more fortunate than he had expected. From that elevation, he was able, for the first time, to hear the noises and calls of his friends, and (what must ever be considered a most remarkable turn of chance) he descended in the direction whence these noises proceeded, and found himself safe and unharmed in the hands of his rescuers. Fortunately, he had met no Indians, and, though he had heard the howls of wolves and the screams of catamounts, he had not been followed or attacked by either. It was in memory of this event, which might have proved almost a public calamity, that the elevation in question, received and has ever since retained, the historic name of “Mount Lamentation.”¹

A MYSTERIOUS POT OF MONEY.—In 1885, clerks in the Hartford Probate Office, in the course of a re-arranging and systematizing of the

¹ In Peter Parley's *First Book of History* (1832), this adventure of Mr. Chester is related with child-like simplicity of statement, in connection with a mention of Weth.; and as if it was the only event of any importance which ever happened in the town.

records of that office, discovered a great many things of interest in the old papers and documents which had been stored away out of sight, many of them for two centuries. Among these was an old suit, which, in its day, must have furnished a delicious bit of scandal and gossip for the good people of Wethersfield, but which had actually been eradicated from all remembrance, or even tradition. This was a suit, brought by Mrs. Mary Chester (widow of the first Col. John Chester) as plaintiff, in the Probate Court, July 25, 1721, Joseph Talcott being then Judge. In this record, in the quaint phraseology of the day, "she vehemently suspects John and Bezaleel Lattimore, Mary, wife of John, Sybil, wife of Bezaleel; Mary Baxter, wife of Thomas Baxter, and Elizabeth Baxter, have gotten into their possession and concealed contrary to law, a quantity of hard silver money unknown, with other goods of value, belonging to the estate of John Chester." The Court's warrant for bringing the accused parties to Hartford for examination, is a singular document, reading thus:

"Mr. GOODWIN—You are desired by y^e plaintiff to be very vigilant. Defendants all dwell in one house. Ye four women you must bring on horseback, and so must provide assistance accordingly. Mr. [Sheriff Ezekiel] Williams will, if need be, provide pillions. I believe you cannot attend y^e warrant without three assistants at least. Be careful to keep them [the last of this paragraph torn, or worn away]."

The accused, male and female, were taken to the Court. Most of the evidence, however, offered in support of Madam Chester's suspicion, was of a hearsay character, and depended upon the veracity of a negro, named George, belonging to the Lattimores, another negro, Richard and an Indian called Antonio. This Indian's story was that coming out of the meadow, once on a time, he saw Bezaleel Lattimore's negro George. He looked very melancholy and Antonio asked what was the matter; to which George replied that his folks had beaten him. On being asked why they had so treated him, he said it was because he had told of finding a kettle, of about three quarts, filled with money, in the cellar wall; and that his mistress had threatened him, if he ever told that story again, his master would hang him up and dig a hole in the ground and bury him alive—and that he was so afraid that he couldn't sleep; and the folks would not let him see Mr. Chester's negroes. The negro Richard, also, testified that George, in digging, had come upon the pot of money with a lid upon it, and had taken some and put it in his pocket, but it was gone in the morning. His grandmaster took the pot and carried it home. He thought there must

have been two or three hundred pounds in it. One statement was that it was a *bag* with money in it "half so large as his arm," etc. The four women who had been haled to Court about it on horseback, denied all knowledge about the matter, and the case went against Madam Chester, for want of sufficient evidence; though the Judge recorded his opinion that there was "room for suspicion."

Another story of this kind, though belonging more properly to Rocky Hill, relates to *Capt. Kidd's* treasure as follows:

It is reported and believed that the celebrated pirate, Capt. Robert Kidd, once entered the Connecticut River, and penetrated it as far as this town; and a hollow below the present "Ship-yard" and directly opposite the fish-house on the east side of the River, known by the old inhabitants of Stepney and Glastonbury, as *Tryon's Landing* is honored by tradition as the spot where he buried some treasure. The late Charles Williams, used to say, that of his personal knowledge, strange people sometimes came from long distances and dug in that hollow—which was still in existence until the Valley R. R. was built; and that persons belonging east of the river also dug there; also, that there was a tradition that, at that spot Kidd, in anger, killed one of his mates by a blow with a water-bucket, and that the ghost of the murdered man kept guard over that spot. He said, also, that in the first quarter of the 19th Century, there was scarcely an inhabitant of the town who could be induced to pass through "Tryon's Landing" after 10 p. m., even for a reward of \$5. Mr. Amos Wilcox, also, in passing through these woods once came unawares upon two men digging earnestly, when both started affrighted and placed their hands over their mouths as a sign to him not to utter a word. This was in the line of the old tradition concerning treasure-seekers, that not a word must be spoken, on pain of the treasure (reputed to be in an iron pot) immediately sinking again into the bowels of the earth, even if the bail of the pot were in the clutch of the discoverer.

THE STRANGE STORY OF ELIZABETH CANNING.—The following copy of an original letter, in the possession of Mrs. Mary D. McLean, of Wethersfield,¹ introduces us to a strange bit of personal history, which has already attracted the attention of some of our local antiquarians.

"Uncle's letter to Mr. Elisha: You will learn y^e present state of his sore, which tho' I hope is such as affords favorable apprehension as to a cure gives none as to a very speedy returne. His pain is at times

¹ Copied by S. W. Adams, Feb. 15, 1889, from the original in possession of Mrs. Mary D. McLean, of Wethersfield.

great & it now forbids his writing to you after y^r other letter: he therefore refers it to me to mention a few things. He hears Cap^r Birnham [Burnham] is come in, & would be glad yⁱ. Rum & whatever other things he brings, we shall want in y^r family, such as sugars, coffee, indico, etc., you will save sufficient quantity. If limes, or lemons, or oranges, let their juice be saved in bottles: either with rum or covered on y^r top with oil. If any letters come forth to send them hither & to lay *Betty Canning's* by till our return. I would also desire you to send by y^r bearer all y^r garden seeds (I mean of flowers) which remain unsown (except those for y^r borders) & some reddish [radish] seed, garden cresses, as also 2 p^d of chocolate. We should be glad of a line to know how y^r servants behave, as well as concerning y^r health of y^r whole; & whether *Betty Canning* is easy at Newington, where I wish she may continue till our return: among other reasons yⁱ she might become mistress of spinning. We doubt not your care of y^r servants, peculiarly this week of liberty: nor of your earnest prayers for your dear Uncle's valuable—may I not say invaluable—life & health: which may they be answered in our comfortable return. I am D^r S^r

Yours effectonately

ELIZ. WILLIAMS.

"I have sent y^r key of y^r parlour & y^r closet in it, yⁱ you may send us about $\frac{1}{2}$ p^d of green tea. You'll keep ye doors lock'd & be pleased to lay up the keys with care. If ye hams have not been sent for, to y^r malsters, you'll be so kind as to do it immediately. Pray send also 5 ounce of snuff.

"Accept our love & tender it to Couzz^r Christian: & let us be remembered to y^r serv^{ts}, with desire & expectation of their behaving well.

[Superscription]

MR. EZEK'LL WILLIAMS.

in Wethersfield.

1755."

This is evidently a portion of a letter written by Madam Williams, the second wife of Rev. Rector-Col. Elisha Williams (the Elizabeth Scott whom he married in Eng.) to her husband's nephew, Ezekiel Williams (afterwards a prominent figure in Wethersfield during the Revolutionary period), who had been left in charge of the family home in Newington during Rector and Mrs. W.'s absence—and at the time of what proved to be the Rector's last illness. The letter itself reveals Mrs. Williams' fine character—education, refinement, ability, firmness

and attention to detail as a housekeeper; thoughtfulness for all in her family, and especially a sense of deep responsibility for her servants; as well as of tender and wise regard for the poor unfortunate girl so providentially brought to her door—a waif from beyond seas.

Briefly told, the story of Elizabeth Canning is a remarkable one. She was, at the time she first comes to our knowledge, 18 years old, the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Canning, of Aldermanbury, London, England, and a servant in London. On January 1st, 1753, she left her master's home to visit her aunt, a Mrs. Thomas Colley. Between 9 and 10 o'clock that evening, she left her aunt's home to return to her master's, accompanied partway by her uncle. As she did not reach her master's home by the next morning, enquiry was made of her mother, who was surprised to hear of her absence; a reward was then offered for the discovery of her whereabouts; but nothing came of it, until, after she had been missing nearly four weeks, she appeared at her mother's, January 29th, in a most pitiable condition, emaciated, insufficiently clothed, and bruised and sore from evident ill-usage. Her story was, that after her uncle had left her and when near Bedlam Wall, she had been waylaid, struck down insensible and thrown into a "convulsion fit" (to which she had been subject, owing to an injury to her head received some years before), then gagged and robbed. The two men who thus maltreated her (one of whom she afterwards identified as John Squires) then dragged her to a house of ill-repute, in Enfield Wash, kept by "Mother" [Susannah] Wells, a "hempen widow;" (*i. e.*, a woman whose husband had been hanged); and of the other inmates of the place, one, a widow, was Mary Squires, a gypsy whom Elizabeth asserted had robbed her, on her entrance, of her stays. She further stated that, on her refusal to lead an abandoned life, she was shut up in a second story chamber, where for four weeks she subsisted on a loaf of bread and 4 quarts of water—seeing no human being during that time, except once when she saw some one peeping at her through the door. She finally effected her escape by pulling off a board from a window. Her story (in itself not at all inconsistent with the state of morals, and lack of police protection in London, at that period) naturally caused much excitement. The women whom she said had been instrumental in her detention were arrested and tried in the Old Bailey: Squires, the gypsy, for robbery, and Wells for being accessory thereto, before Fielding, the novelist, who was at that time a City Magistrate; and although strenuously protesting their innocence, were tried before the Lord Mayor's Court. The gypsy woman (Mary Squires) was sentenced to be hanged on

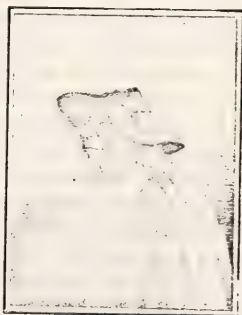
the charge of having stolen Elizabeth's stays—value 10 shillings. "Mother" Wells was sentenced to be branded with red hot irons; which was done, and it said that when the mob smelled the odor of the woman's burning flesh, they yelled with delight. Smollett, the novelist, also, was much interested in the case, as was Ramsay, the artist, who published his views in a *Letter from a Clergyman to a Nobleman*.

The matter was in every mouth, the newspapers of the day exploited it widely, and dozens of pamphlets were issued, taking opposite sides. Soon, however, the tables were turned on Elizabeth, by the production of fresh evidence that the gypsy woman, then under sentence of death, had been over 100 miles away at the time of the occurrence with which she was charged and she was pardoned—to the great dissatisfaction of the mob, who manifested their indignation by smashing the windows of the Lord Mayor's carriage, because he had aided in the reversal of the sentence. Then Elizabeth was tried, before a bench of 17 magistrates, including the Lord Mayor and the Lord Chief Justice, on a charge of wilful and corrupt perjury in swearing a felony against (and thus endangering the life of) the gypsy woman Mary Squires. The trial lasted seven days—verdict *guilty*, and she was sentenced 30 May, 1754, to one month's imprisonment in Newgate, and transportation, to one of the British Colonies, for seven years, on penalty, if she should ever return and be found within that time, in the limits of Great Britain or Ireland, of suffering death as a felon, without benefit of clergy.¹ She probably was sent to Philadelphia, in the ship *Myrtilla*, which sailed from Deal, England, in the latter part of August, 1754. It has been impossible, up to the present time, although much research has been spent upon the question, to ascertain whether Elizabeth Canning was an impostor or not. On her trial, 36 witnesses on one side and 26 on the other, testified, under oath, to facts which were utterly irreconcilable. Henry Fielding, the novelist and judge before whom Squires and Wells were tried, believed in her innocence and wrote a pamphlet in her defense.²

¹ This case has attained a somewhat extended celebrity, as may be judged from the following list of authorities:

Howell's *State Trials*, XIX, 262-693, 283, 1218; *Trial for Perjury in the Old Bailey*, London, 1754; *Celebrated Trials*, IV, 172; *Chamber's Journal*, XVIII, 108; *Ecclesiastical Mag.*, XXVII, 246; *Blackwood's Mag.*, LXXXVII, 581; *Conn. Courant*, No. 404, 1773; *London Notes & Queries*, II, 27, 75, 117, 216; XI, 484, 509, XII, 30, 76; *Padget's Paradoxes and Puzzles*, 1874. p. 318; Dr. Hill's *Full and Authentic Account, etc.*, 66; Churchill's *Glast.*, 182; and various newspapers of the period—besides a paper read by Mr. JOSEPH G. WOODWARD, of Htfd., before the Conn. Hist. Soc'y and discussions thereon.

² Magistrate Fielding, who took her examination, with five years experience as a



MARY SQUIRES, the Gypsy.
convicted on account of
Eliz^h Canning, but after-
wards reprieved. (*From
an old print.*)

It was proved on her trial and ~~not~~ denied that she had been an honest girl, with a moral character that was blameless and irreproachable. It seems very improbable that such a previously innocent girl of only 18 years of age should have concocted such a story, as she testified to under oath, and persisted in during her life, especially as death was the penalty for robbery at that time. No evidence that she was anywhere else, during her four weeks absence, than at the house she described, has ever appeared. This is certainly a strong point in favor of her innocence. Those who knew her best believed her.

Voltaire, the great French philosopher, wrote her life in England in connection with a case then eliciting much attention in France (that of the Calar Family) to illustrate the danger of trusting to circumstantial evidence. Of course, she had many friends in England, who presented her with £100 previous to her deportation; and one, a Mrs. Cooke, of Stoke Newington, contributed £100, to be put at interest, under four trustees, the whole sum to be given her, if she behaved well and if she returned to England after seven years, that she might be established in some sort of business. To this kind benefactor she sent the following letter (without address or postmark), which will possess interest to our Wethersfield readers, from its pleasant allusions to Rector Williams and wife:

"Hon. Madam—I am so unfit to write to such a Lady as yourself as has made me offend in not writing so long, and now I do not know how to do it, but I hope you will excuse what is amiss. I am greatly thankful for all your abundant favors to me, and hope God will reward you tho' I can never do it, but I will pray for you and I hope I shall never forget to do that, and I thank you for them from my heart. I thank God I have had good health ever since I came here, only once broke my leg which has been long well, only a little painful at times. I have lost my master the Colonel [Rector-Col. Elisha Williams], who was a good friend indeed. My poor lady is greatly sorrowful: hope God will comfort her. She is very kind to me. I hope my friends will not have me from her as she is willing to keep me. I do not

magistrate, in this pamphlet that he published soon after, pronounced Elizabeth Canning to be "a child in years and yet more so in understanding, with all the marks of simplicity that I ever discovered in a human countenance." "Before noblemen and magistrates and judges she went through her evidence without hesitation, confusion, trembling, change of countenance, or other apparent emotion—the highest impudence or the most perfect innocence." The opinion of this great writer, with his knowledge of human nature, and his official acquaintance with the evidence in the case is certainly entitled to great weight, though it may not solve the mystery of her guilt or innocence.

know where to find such another. I hope, Madam, I shall forever have cause to bless God I ever came to this House, and for all affliction which was the cause of it, as I always have occasion to bless God for such friends as yourself. Pray, Madam, accept my humble Duty who am your grateful servant.

ELIZ. CANNING.

April 29, 1755.

[It seems, from a passage in a letter of a Member of Congress, who in 1790, visited Wethersfield, that she was brought to America, in the same vessel with Rector and Mrs. Williams—whose kindness offered her a home in their own family. Her position in this family evidently was not that of a menial—for the Colonel had negro and Indian slaves to do that kind of work—but she was regarded as a poor, persecuted girl, whom fortune had strangely thrown upon their hands, for whose future welfare they were solicitous. In Madam Williams' letter as given above, the whole tone of reference, both to Elizabeth and to the other servants of the house, marks the distinction which the mistress made between them—as, also, the anxiety she must have felt during her absence from home in attendance upon her invalid husband, as to the conduct of this strange young girl of doubtful antecedents. She was not, however, long burdened with this responsibility, for, in 1756, Elizabeth married John Treat, a "scatter-brain young fellow," though of good family, being a grandnephew of Governor Robert Treat; in the Indian war campaign of 1757 and '58, he served as a private in Capt. Eliphalet Whittlesey's (Newington) Co.

In 1761, according to an item in the *Annual Register* (England), for that year (p. 179), Mrs. Treat returned to England to receive a legacy of £300 left her three years before by an old lady in Newington—perhaps, the same Mrs. Cooke before referred to.

Both Treat and his wife started their married life with about £1,500 between them, but, being of too easy a disposition, this sum was soon spent and their house had to be sold. She d. in 1773;¹ he in 1796.—See *Treat Genealogy* in Vol. II.—*H. R. S.*]

Grave Robbing.—The following, which floated in upon Mr. Adams, from the *Des Moines* (Iowa) *Leader*, by favor of a Western correspondent—although he had not identified the lady in question with any of

¹Hartford, June 22d. Last week died very suddenly, at Weth., Mrs. Elizabeth Treat, wife of Mr. [John] Treat, formerly the famous Elizabeth Canning—*Conn. Courant*, June 15-22, 1773.

Wethersfield's dames—seems to date from this town, and may, therefore, be admitted to our pages, if not to our confidence. It is the tradition of a lady, who lived here in the last century, died—as was supposed, and was buried; and being, moreover, of a wealthy family, bore to the grave with her a valuable diamond ring upon her finger. The night after she was committed to the grave, two men opened it, on robbery intent. Finding that the coveted ring could not be removed from the finger, they attempted to cut off that member. The first gash of the knife brought the lady out of her trance (for such it was) and she sat upright in her coffin. This so frightened the robbers that they could not run away, and she finally persuaded them to take her home, only a short distance from the old graveyard. This they did, and left her by the door, upon which they rapped heavily, and disappeared from view as rapidly as possible. The door was opened by the lady's husband, who was greatly frightened when he found himself not at all a widower. The lady recovered her health (as well she might, after such an experience) and lived twenty years longer.

THE BEADLE MURDERS, 1783.—Chief Justice Mitchell of Wethersfield, a friend and neighbor of WM. BEADLE, wrote a very full account of the murderer and his crime. This was first published as an appendix to the sermon preached by Rev. John Marsh at the funeral of Mrs. Beadle and her children, printed some time in 1783. The account then appears anonymously, in *Dwight's Travels*, and also in Barber's *Historical Collections of Connecticut*. It is only recently that the discovery was made, that it was written by Judge Stephen Mix Mitchell. The manuscript is, we believe, preserved among the records of the Third School District.

Of WM. BEADLE's early life, Judge Mitchell writes:

"He was born in the County of Essex, in a village not very far from London. * * * He left a mother and sister in England, where he had a fair character for integrity and honesty. In the year 1755, he went out to the Island of Barbadoes, in the family of Charles Pinfold, Esq., Governor of the Island, where he tarried six years; then returned to England, purchased some merchandize and from thence came to New York in the year 1762, and immediately removed to Stratford, in this state, from thence to Derby, and then to Fairfield, where he married and dwelt for some years. By this time he had acquired about £1,200 with which he removed to this town, about ten years since (1772) where he resided until his death. His business was that of retailing * * He refused to give credit, intending to keep his

property within his own reach, believing it always secure while his eye was upon it. While here he added considerably to his stock, some of which he invested in real estate, etc., etc."¹

"When the war commenced, he had on hand a very handsome assortment of goods for a country store, which he sold for the currency of the country without any advance in price;² the money he laid by, waiting and expecting the time would soon arrive when he might therewith replace his goods, resolving not to part with it until it should be in as good demand as when received by him * * * * He finally lost all hope, and was thrown into a state little better than despair, as appears from his writing * * * He was determined not to bear the mortification of being thought by his friends poor and dependent, etc.

"He fixed upon the night succeeding the 18th of November, 1782, for the execution of his nefarious purpose," but this plan was frustrated. On the evening of December 10, or rather on the early morning of

¹ [The following "Advertisement, addressed to the Ladies," in the *Conn. Courant*, indicates a degree of enterprise not then common to the storekeepers of that day, who usually confined their advertisements to prose, and to very limited space. The advertisement itself bears witness to the popular excitement concerning the use of tea, which had agitated the people of the Colonies since 1772:

"Fair Ladies, 'tis not very arch,
To talk about the first of March,
That woful day, when each of ye,
Must leave your darling Nectar, Tea!
Your China, which attracts the Eye,
Like Lumber, must neglected lie:
And dearest Tea-Kettle's harder Lot,
Must change him to a Porridge Pot.
But now, methinks I hear you say,
Sufficient is the evil Day.
Then why should you, with Raven's Note,
Anticipate the fatal Vote,
That must deprive us of our Joy,
And all our future Peace destroy?
Sweet Fair Ones, though I tell this story,
Upon my Word, I am no tory.
In spite of all tyrannic Tools,
I mean to follow Virtue's Rules.
And now I pledge my word, and say,
The noble Congress I'll obey.
Who *maugre* Power, Pride or Skill,
Dares to be free and virtuous still.
And you've a month to make your Plea
Concerning this same Idol, Tea.

Now, tho' I send to let you know,
I have a hundred Weight, or so,
It is as good as e'er was tasted;
Then must all this be lost and wasted?
If a Market I should miss on't.
Pray help me out, and make a Dish on't
When March sets in I vow at once,
A Joe shant purchase half an Ounce.
I'll lock, and barr, and set a Spell on't,
Nor shall a Mortal ever smell on't.
Yet stop a moment! on my Life!
For now I think on't, I've a Wife.
And if she proves of Eve the Daughter,
To have a Kind of Hankering after
This noxious Herb, and when I'm gone,
With Ax or Hatchet should lay on,
With Arm and Will, both bold and stout,
Should find this potent Poison out:
This Thought bewilders all my Sense,
For what would be the Consequence?
Then help us keep our 'virtue sound,
And quickly purchase 'tother pound.

—William Beadle."

Wethersfield, January 28, 1775.

H. R. S.]

December 11,¹ he sent the maid away on a visit to a physician, saying that Mrs. Beadle was ill. There is reason to believe that he had killed Mrs. Beadle just before this. Judge Mitchell describes the events as follows:

"He smote his wife and each of the children with an axe on the side of the head as they lay sleeping in bed; the woman had two wounds in the head; the skull of each of them were fractured; he then with a carving knife cut their throats from ear to ear. * * * The woman and little boy were drawn partly over the side of the bed, as if to prevent the bedding from being besmeared with blood. The three daughters were taken from the bed and laid upon the floor side by side, like three lambs before their throats were cut; they were covered with a blanket, and the woman's face with a handkerchief. He then proceeded to the lower floor of the house * * * carrying with him the axe and knife * * * It appears he then seated himself in a window chair, with his arms supported by the arms of the chair; he fixed the muzzles of the pistols into his two ears and fired them at the same instant; the balls went through the head in transverse directions * * * "

A note sent by the maid to the physician (as above mentioned) referred to the murderer's purpose. The house was soon opened.

"Multitudes of all ages and sexes were drawn together by the sad tale, etc., etc. So awful and terrible a disaster wrought wonderfully on the minds of the neighborhood, etc.

"Near the close of the day on the 12th of Dec., the bodies being still unburied, the people who had collected in great numbers, grew almost frantic with rage, and demanded the body of the murderer; the law being silent on the subject, it was difficult to determine where the body should be placed; many proposed it should be in an ignominious manner where four roads met, without any coffin or insignia of respect, and perforated by a stake. Upon which a question arose where that place could be found which might be unexceptionable to the neighborhood—but no one would consent it should be near his house or land. After some consultation it was thought best to place it on the bank of the river between high and low water mark; the body was handed out of the window and bound with cords on a sled with the clothes on as

¹"Having fixed upon the evening to carry his design into effect, he procured a fine supper of oysters, of which his family partook; that evening he wrote, 'I have prepared a noble supper of oysters, that my flock and I may eat and drink together, thank God and die.'"—*Dr. Marsh's Sermon.*

it was found and the bloody knife tied on his breast, without coffin or box, and the horse he usually rode was made fast to the sled—the horse unaccustomed to the draught, proceeded with great unsteadiness, sometimes running full speed, then stopping, followed by a multitude, until arriving at the water's edge, the body was tumbled into a hole dug for the purpose like the carcass of a beast. Not many days afterward there appeared an uneasiness in sundry persons at placing the body so near a ferry much frequented; some threatenings were given out that the body should be taken up and a second time exposed to view. It was thought prudent it should be removed, and secretly deposited in some obscure spot; it was accordingly removed with the utmost secrecy; notwithstanding, some children accidentally discovered the place, and the early freshets partly washed up the body, and it has had a second removal to a place where it is hoped mankind will have no vexation with it. On the 13th of December, the bodies of the murdered were interred in a manner much unlike that of the unnatural murderer. The remains of the children were borne by a suitable number of equal age, attended by a sad procession of youths of the town, all bathed in tears; side by side the hapless woman's corpse was carried in solemn procession to the parish churchyard, followed by a great concourse, who with affectionate concern and every token of respect were anxious to express their heartfelt sorrow in performing the last mournful duties."

"Tis doubtful whether any history of modern times can afford an instance of similar barbarity.

"Mr. Beadle left sundry letters directed to his acquaintance, and one labored treatise in justification of his conduct. He professes himself a Deist, but reprobates Atheism.¹ * * * Much has been said in favor of publishing his writings by those who have not seen them; those who have perused them doubt the propriety of such a measure. He attempts to attack all rules in church and state, treats the Christian religion with a great degree of bitterness and bigotry; and yet absurdly concludes by saying 'if it is true he shall be saved by it.' etc., etc., etc."

Pres. Dwight, of Yale College, in his *Travels*,² also relates pretty fully the story of this tragedy; and adds the following facts in connection with it:

"The wife, under very painful impressions from his extraordinary conduct, particularly from the fact that he continually brought an axe,

¹ "Early became familiar with an infidel club in London and imbibed their opinions."—*Dr. Marsh's Sermon*.

² *Dwight's Travels in New England and New York*, 1823, I, 199.

and other implements of death, into his bed chamber, dreamed frequently and in a very disturbed manner. One morning, she told him that, in her sleep, the preceding night, she had seen her own corpse, and the corpses of her children exposed in coffins in the street, that the sun shone on them for a long time, and that they were ultimately frozen. This dream made a strong impression on Beadle's mind. In his writings he mentions it as having solved all his doubts; and as a direct revelation from Heaven that it was lawful for him to put his wife also to death. He had previously doubted his right to take her life, because being the child of another person, she was not his property, or under his control, in the same sense as were his children, whom he considered his own property."

See *Wethersfield Cemetery Inscriptions* for the epitaph on monument of Mrs. Beadle and children. The Beadle family are buried in the northern part of the yard in a single grave. About 1790, a tombstone was erected on the grave. It is a sandstone slab resting on brick walls, raised originally about 3 feet above the ground. The inscription is said to have been written by the Hon. John Davis, of Boston. The house where the murder was committed stood on the south side of Sandy Lane (on Hartford Ave.), near the present residence of Jas. A. Myggatt, Esq. It was torn down many years ago.

This tragedy in a quiet Conn. village, awakened the greatest interest and horror throughout New England—such occurrences not then being as common as they have since become.

Judge Mitchell, the author of the foregoing account, entered upon the Town's records, a long statement of the event under date of December 17th, 1782, in which he says that the Committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Third School District, were unable to report, "*in consequence of the general consternation and confusion which ensued,*" etc.

A sermon was also published on the event by Rev. John Marsh, pastor at Wethersfield; and another at Wallingford, the latter, entitled:

"*MEN'S SINS NOT CHARGEABLE ON GOD, BUT ON THEMSELVES. A Discourse Delivered at Wallingford, December 22, 1782, Occasioned by the tragical exit of William Beadle, his wife and four children, at Wethersfield, on the morning of the 11th instant, by his own hands. By James Dana, D. D., Pastor of the First Church in Wallingford, New Haven,*" [1783], 8vo., pp. 28.

Regarding this murder, the following incident has been related: "Some old soldiers accidentally passing through the town on their way

from camp to visit friends, led by curiosity, turned aside to view the sad remains. On sight of the woman and her tender offspring, notwithstanding all their firmness, the sympathetic tear stealing down their furrowed cheeks betrayed the anguish of their hearts. On being shown the body of the sacrifice they paused a moment, instinctively placed their hands on their swords, half withdrew them from their scabbards, then muttering forth an oath or two of execration with their eyes fixed on the ground in silent sorrow, they slowly wended their way." This recalls the last line of the victims' epitaph, "And Indignations half unsheath their swords."

SLAVERY AND NEGROES IN WETHERSFIELD.—Slavery was not limited to the black race alone. It is probable that most of the earliest slaves in the Colony were Indians, prisoners of war. Not only were such captives sold to servitude, but their progeny were born slaves, or "servants;" as bondmen were sometimes called, down to 1700. Some were sent to the West Indies, and blacks, or mulattoes, brought back in their stead. We give some facts regarding slavery in Wethersfield.

When JOHN LATIMER died, in April, 1662, he left an Indian slave, appraised at 24 pounds; while a negress and child, also belonging to him, were together appraised at 22 pounds.

In February, 1687-8, SAMUEL SMITH was required by the Court of assistants to pay to "the daughters of *Necessasion*, an Indian," four yards of trucking-cloth, or twelve bushels of Indian Corn, for having carelessly killed their parent, at said Smith's house in Wethersfield.

In 1690, Mr. SAMUEL WOLCOTT was complained of, in the same Court, for beating his servant *Shumackpock*; evidently an Indian.

Among the earliest slaveholders must have been LEONARD CHESTER. When he died, in 1648, a "Neager maide" belonging to him was appraised at 25 pounds.

Rector ELISHA WILLIAMS (Colonel, Clergyman and Judge), was the owner of a squaw slave. He records the birth of two of her children: *Ambo*, 5 June, 1715, and *Desire*, 17 Feb., 1717. John Wiard sold his Negro, *Anthony*, his freedom in 1711.

Judging from the number of manumissions recorded, there must have been many negro slaves in Wethersfield. Some of the facts connected with the grant of their freedom are interesting.

In November, 1766, *Quash Gomer* bought his freedom from JOHN SMITH for 25 pounds. Gomer's grave is marked by a suitably inscribed stone in the cemetery. In March, 1768, SARAH WEBSTER freed, unconditionally, *Pop*, inherited by her from her mother [widow] MARY WARNER. In October, 1769, DAVID BELDING [Belden] released *Jupi-*

ter Paine, whom he had inherited from his father, Capt. Jonath. Belden. In December, 1776, SARAH WEBSTER released *Jerry*, for the consideration of 40 shillings. In May, 1777, DAVID GRISWOLD released *Caesar*, whom he had bought of Col. Chester; conditioned that the freedman serve three years in the Continental army. He did so serve (so his discharge says) "with reputation," in the 5th regiment. In the same month, JOHN WRIGHT and LUKE FORTUNE freed *Abner Andrew*, whom they owned jointly. Four years later, Abner bought a wife *Zipporah*, from JOHN ROBBINS, for 40 pounds. In June, 1777, WILL. WARNER released *Caesar*, conditioned that the latter enlist for three years in the Continental Army. At the same time, WILL. GRISWOLD, released *Cato Lewis*, freedom to commence three years later, and Cato to "pay Dr. Jepson's bill." In January, 1778, PHINEAS ANDRUS [Andrews], "being convinced of the injustice of the general practice of this country, in holding the Negroes slaves, during life, without their consent"—released *Prince Nauqui*, aged 47, unconditionally. In November, 1779, JOHN BELDEN released *Sampson*, in consideration of 400 pounds, Continental currency. In August, 1780, ELIAS WILLIAMS releases *Caesar Freeman*, aged 18; he to enlist, for three years, in Col. Webb's regiment. In April, 1781, ABIGAIL GRISWOLD, and her daughter, ABIGAIL, released *Bristow Miranda*,¹ in consideration of "100 Silver dollars." In July, 1782, JOHN CAMP released *Pomp*, unconditionally. In December, 1782, Gen. Washington, at Newburgh, discharged *Hector Williams*, a former Wethersfield slave, for disability. ELISHA WEBSTER had two negro men (one *Cato*) and one negro woman. In July, 1782, JOHN CAMP released *Pomp*, unconditionally. ELISHA WEBSTER had two negro men (one *Cato*) and one negro woman. When JAMES KNOWLES paid Mr. Ep. Williams £2 for a pair of shoes for himself (1750?), he paid 10s. for a pair for his *negro man*; and Col. JOHN CHESTER, 1748, paying £1.12s. for a pair for his wife, paid also the same price for a pair for his "*negro wench*." ELISHA WILLIAMS bo't shoes of Mr. Eph. Williams for his negro *Peter* and his Indian woman. Col. CHESTER had negroes named *Jim*, *Frisk* and an Indian girl "*Lettis*," and the baptisms of most of the Chester family's negroes were all duly recorded in the Wethersfield Church Records.

From an old Chester (MS.) we copy the names and birth dates of nine slaves, who must have belonged to the third John Chester, viz.:

¹ In September, 1780. "Bristoe Mirandy" was warned out of Boston, under the Vagabond act. [See *Hist. Mag.*, VIII, p. 172.]

Dick B., Sept. 7, 1751; *Timon*, Sept. 14, 1753; *Phillis*, Mch., 1751; *Caesar*, Mch., 1754; *Asher*, May, 1755; *Maubry*, 1757; *Sabian*, 20 Aug., 1759; *Chloe*, 14 Sept., 1761; *Sylva*, Dec. 2, 1766.

The Act of 1784, provided that negro and mulatto children, born after the first day of March, in that year, should become free on attaining the age of 25 years. Consequently, no person born in this state after 1809, could be a slave in Connecticut. But many years later there remained some, who had been born before that date. And it was not till 1848, that our law absolutely emancipated all slaves.

[*London* was the name of a (native African) slave that belonged to Col. JOHN CHESTER, Sen. He was at one time "Governor," of the blacks for Connecticut: for in the last century, the negroes had a custom of electing one of their number as their ruler for a year to whom they gave this title.¹ *London* was imported when a little child from Africa and spoke better English than did most of his race. His wife, *Betty*, is said to have been an Indian. She died in 1787. Some time after he had reached his prime, he was made free. He removed to Indian Hill, in West Simsbury, where he was still called "Governor," and is said to have died near the close of the last century, aged about 80 years, and a pauper of the Town of New Hartford. Abiel Brown's *Geneal. Settlers of W. Simsbury* (now Canton), p. 140, gives the following anecdote concerning him. He said that in the early part of his life with Master Chester, he saw one morning what he thought to be a very pretty puppy; he accordingly seized him with a view to play with him, but the *skunk* soon convinced him that he was playing with the wrong animal. From that story arose, in Simsbury, the name of "Wethersfield puppy."—H. R. S.]

[Many advertisements appear in the newspapers of the Colonial and Revolutionary periods, offering rewards for runaway slaves; and even as early as the beginning of the 19th Century, slaves who accompanied their Southern master in their visits to the North, were not averse to improving the opportunity to escape from bondage—aided, not infrequently, by Northern friends, whose abolitionist tendencies were even then beginning to manifest themselves in New England. In June, 1803, the following notice appeared in the *Mercury*: "The very *Ho-no-ra-ble* John Rutledge, late a member of Congress S. C. and of 'Daily Rose' and blustering duel memory, has arrived in Wethersfield in this State, to spend the summer." This notice,

¹ Some interesting anecdotes of the gubernatorial aspirations of these Connecticut slaves, etc., will be found in Stiles' *Hist. and Genealogies of Ancient Windsor, Conn.*, Vol. I, p.

inspired doubtless by political, if not by personal enmity, finds its sequence, in the following advertisement which appeared October 22d, of the same year, in the *Columbian Centinel* and *Massachusetts Federalist*, Boston, headed, "*Two Hundred Dollars Reward.*"—"Absented herself last night from the service of Mr. Rutledge, a negro woman who is his property, named *Phillis*. She is 35 years old about 5 feet 8 inches high, of a yellowish complexion (between that of a negro and a mulatto), thin, has lost her front teeth, has thick lips and a scar, from having been burnt when a child upon her breast near the right shoulder about half the size of a dollar. *Phillis* wears gold bobs in her ears, and a black straw bonnet. She carried with her petticoats of blue cloth, dimorthy [dimity?], black calimance, red home spun; a dark calico gown with yellow spots, one of black and white, one of white checked muslin; she also took with her eight yards of dark calico with bright yellow spots, two checked aprons not made up, new red and white cotton handkerchiefs, with many other articles of dress. *Phillis* was a good cook, washer-woman and cake baker.

"A black fellow named *Peter*, also absented himself from the service of Mr. Rutledge, some weeks past when he was in Boston. *Peter* is not quite 6 feet high, much poek-marked, had red eyes, and his upper teeth wide apart. He is an excellent coachman, a tolerably good cook, plays the tambourine and is very fond of dancing. *Peter* is a little bald, wears his wool in a short queue and occasionally wears ear-rings. He took with him a variety of clothing. Whoever will apprehend and deliver these slaves to the subscriber, or secure them in any goal in New England so that he may get to them will receive the above reward of 200 dollars, or 100 for either of them.

"CHESTER CLARK.

"Weathersfield, Conn., Oct. 15, 1803."

Whether the Southerner recovered his slaves or not, his Northern trip must have proved unsatisfactory and expensive to him.—*H. R. S.*]

ODD NAMES.—There are in Wethersfield, as in other old towns, a number of localities bearing very singular names, the meaning of which it is very difficult to find out, or even to guess. Of some of these we have made notes, which may prove of interest to our readers. Some of these queer names may have arisen from events which have long since passed from the memory of man; others are evidently "corruptions" of old words, or names, not now in use.

Tap-Howe or *Taphow*.—This name, as appears from an old survey in the possession of Roger Welles, Esq., appertained to land in Hog

Meadows, Wethersfield. Indeed, some old people, in Newington, remember having heard it applied to Cedar Hill; sometimes called Cedar Mountain. The name is unmistakably Indian; and Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull tells us that it means "Thank you," or, is of the same import.

In a deed, dated April 29th, 1684, to Serg. Thomas Judd and John Stanley (both of Farmington) of a tract of land lying in the present townships of Wolcott, Waterbury, Middlebury, Watertown and Plymouth, the instrument is signed by eight Indians, mostly of the vicinity of Farmington, or the Tunxis region. The third name in the order of signatures is that of *Taphow*; while the last one is that of *Quatowquechuck*, "Taphow's Son." In Orcutt's *History of Derby*, a deed dated August 26th, 1674, is referred to. It conveys a tract of sixty square miles, to a committee acting in behalf of the settlers at Mattatuck (now Waterbury and vicinity), and is signed by fourteen Indians. The first signer was *Nesaheagen* (a chief of the Pouquannock Indians had borne this name), and one of the same name signed the Wethersfield deed of 1673; the second signer was *John Compound* (Counpounce Pond derives its name from this Indian); the fifth signer was *Taphow*. These deeds are indicative of a kinship, or common bond or tie, of some sort, between the chief aboriginal proprietors of a large domain lying between the Connecticut and Housatonic Rivers, and extending nearly to Long Island Sound on the south and the northern boundary of Connecticut on the north.

Concerning this S. W. ADAMS says:

"In Captain Eliphalet Whittelsey's Company, of General Lyman's Command, in several campaigns of the French war (1756 to 1760), we find that sundry Indians were enrolled as soldiers. Captain Whittelsey was of Wethersfield, and most of his men (as is apparent on examining the muster rolls) were from that township. Of these Indians, the names were: In 1756, *Sockhegon*, *Stephen Queesod*, *Richard Toroway* and *Isaac Suncemon*; in 1758, *Ambo*, *Dando* (or *Tando*), *Daniel Neepash* and *Stephen Taphow*. Where an Indian had been given a forename it may be assumed that there were other Indians bearing the same surname.

"Ambo, so it stands recorded, was the son of Rector Elisha Williams' Indian slave-woman. *Suncemon*, corrupted to *Cinnamon*, may have been an ancestor of "Old Cinnamon," still remembered in Wethersfield. *Cinnamon* was more black than copper colored; but, of the imported slaves, the males largely outnumbered the females; hence many of them found their female partners among the red people, many of whom were also slaves. *Dando* or *Tando* was probably of that Tando family,

some members whereof are still remembered in Wethersfield. People who have seen them say that they appeared to be of mixed African and Indian blood. A water-course in Wethersfield still bears the name of "Tando's brook." There was a *Nee-pash* in Farmington, but he had no forename. The other Indians named, we have not attempted to trace; but it is not unlikely that they, including Stephen Taphow, were among the last of the Indian race in Wethersfield. Taphow, who served and was paid for his full term of service, perhaps lived in the wild region which bore his name, and by the spring which still retains it. What is more probable?"

Roger Welles, Esq., says, in a letter (1891) to Mr. Adams, "The piece of land called "Taphow" belonged to my great grandfather, Solomon Welles, and the survey was found among some of my Uncle Martin Welles' papers. It was called "Taphow, or Hog Meadow." So, I judge, that they were both names of the same locality. The land, I suppose, descended to my grandfather and then to my Aunt Mary Welles (wife of Martin) Kellogg. * * * I have also been informed that the mountain in that vicinity was called "Taphow," and the name, I imagine, covered quite an extent of territory." Concerning the Meadow above referred to, Mr. Adams makes the following note:

Hog Meadow.—"I first find this name in 1683, when it is made the western bound of a town-common for sheep. It was then given to the same section as now. Its swampy character probably made it a favorite place for swine; droves of which were then kept running at large in the wild lands belonging to the town in general."

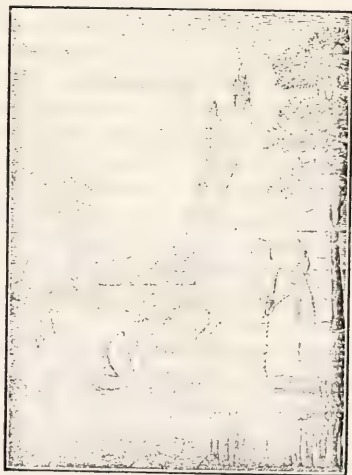
Sodom.—John Robbins' lot, in the upper end of Fearful Swamp, was described as being in "Sodom," in a record of 1673.

Two-Stone.—The earliest instance we have found of this name, is in a Town vote of 1695, referring to a tract of 40 acres, bought by Capt. John Chester, of Capt. Robert Seely's heirs. It was between the north-and-south highway of the present Griswoldville and the Collier brook. In 1697, ten acres of land was given by the Town to Lieut. James Treat "near Two Stone brook, on the east side of the highway." The name is still sometimes given to Griswoldville. Tradition says the name was given from the fact of two great stones formerly there; but I have heard of no precise locality to which they were assigned. The name is older than that of Griswoldville; which section was not inhabited by any of the Griswolds nor by any other settler, probably, before 1712.

Mr. CHARLES WILLIAMS, of Rocky Hill, in a letter (1894) to Judge Adams, says: "Sixty years ago, Griswoldville was called and known in this part of the town, as 'Two Stone,' probably from 'Tomestone' or 'Two Stones,' but pronounced as if spelled 'Toostone.'"

Newfields.—In the same letter, Mr. Williams, also says: "*Newfields*" was named in this way. The land was a common, known as "The Plains." When it was enclosed and put under cultivation it was called "New Field." My grandfather, Elias Williams, took in a large portion of this land, a part of which is now known as the "Pent Farm." West of this farm and at the foot of "Cabul Hill," there then lived a man named Theodore Blinn, who made plows and harrows, which were wonderful as to strength and durability. The shear was of hammered wrought iron, while the mould-board was of two-inch oak plank, fitted in in such a manner that it stood up almost square. These plows did not *turn* the furrow, but left it up on the edge. Blinn made two plows, one for my father, and one for my uncle, who took these fields in the division of Elias Williams' estate. The plow made for my father weighed nearly 300 pounds; the other was a trifle smaller. The soil of these Newfields was thin and densely covered with scrub-oaks and white birch. These were cut down close to the ground. The body of the plow was taken from the cart and the chain from the plow fastened around the axletree. The cattle were then put on—often twelve yoke, never less than ten. The beam of this plow was a timber six inches square and some eight feet long—holes were bored in it near the end, into which a stout stake was driven on each side; one man on each side held the stakes to keep the plow straight, while one held to the handles to keep the plow up. Two or three men drove the team, while two more followed the plow to pull out the roots which it turned up. Of course, the plow took a wide furrow and the heavy team tore out all roots it came in contact with; and after all this work, ten or twelve bushels of rye was all that could be raised from one acre. But, labor was cheap, and with all the team and men, it did not cost as much to plow an acre of land, as it now does."

Cabul, or "*Coo Bull*," or "*Cape Bull*," referred to above, was a name applied to some hills in the west part of Rocky Hill—though the appellation extended into Cromwell and perhaps some further. Tradition accounts for the name in this way. The early settlers here turned their cattle on to these hills to feed. In looking for the cows, at night-fall, the boys called "*Coo-Coo-Coo*;" and they soon discovered a curious *echo*, which reiterated the call three times. The call being repeated rapidly, the echo would come back "*Co-bull, Co-bull Co-bull*"—and



WETHERSFIELD GIRLS WEEDING ONIONS.

*(Reproduced from print in Peters'
History of Connecticut.)*

to this day that part of the town is by the oldest people called Co-bull, or as found referred to in old ledgers, etc., spelled and pronounced *Cabull*. Wethersfield, without Ca-bull, would be like Wethersfield without her onion gardens.

Egypt is an area in the old village, situated about at the intersections and the territories adjacent thereto, of the South Lane Road, Back Lane continued, and road leading from Broad Street to South Lane—a tract largely owned, from early days to the present time, by the Robbins Family. An old resident has favored us with the following explanation of how it derived its name: "You have doubtless read, in Bible history, the story of Jacob's sons going down into Egypt to dicker with Pharoah for corn, and the bother they had in getting it home.

About the year 1816, there were, in this region, *severe frosts every month in the year*, and corn crops were mostly a failure. "Pharoah" Robbins, a large planter of that day in Wethersfield must have had quite a stock in hand of the corn crop of 1815; and a grand rush was made for planting, in the spring of 1817, by all of Jacob's boys in the surrounding territory, who came to "Pharoah" Robbins to buy corn. They had no trouble in leaving their shekels and carrying off the corn, and you may be sure there was no Joseph around to put any of the shekels into the sacks. The *boys*, when asked where they were going, or where they had been, to get the corn, generally replied, "down into Egypt to buy corn!"

Thus the name—which applied merely to a small area—only a short distance from Broad Street, and less to Harris' Hill, and before we lose sight of F. H. Robbins' house, now standing there, we are in South Lane (now Middletown Avenue). The Robbins' house referred to, is an old house; but I can remember a much older Robbins' house which stood very near the present one, but was demolished some 30 or 40 years ago. These houses faced westerly, and stood upon high ground. Only about 3 rods in front of them ran Tando's brook and the ground is low and swampy. In the rear of these houses is the nice *Plain corn ground*."

New France Street, which included the Beckley Quarter and the Beckley Mills, is a needless corruption of the original "New Farms" Street.

Lord's Field was a large tract on which neither trees, or bushes, or much of anything else would grow. It belonged to nobody and nobody wanted it—and our aged informant (Mr. Deming, then in 1894, nearly 80 years old) said it was called "The Lord's Field," he supposed, for the reason that no one else claimed it. He also spoke of

"*Vexation Hill*," which was on the "20-rod highway" and is mentioned in a deed from Wm. Hurlbut to a Lydia Moulton, as late as October, 1815. It was bounded east on Elisha Robbins' land, west on highway, north on land of John Warner and south on James Hurlbut's—and contained about 100 acres. It is said that an old negro woman hung herself in that quarter, and the people buried her body on top of the hill in the 20-rod highway (a survival of the old custom of burying murderers and suicides at a road crossing, with a stake driven through the body) and called the hill "Vexation"—and it was said that the ghost of the poor woman had since haunted the spot. The highway in question was never used except for drawing wood. Our informant, also spoke of the place called

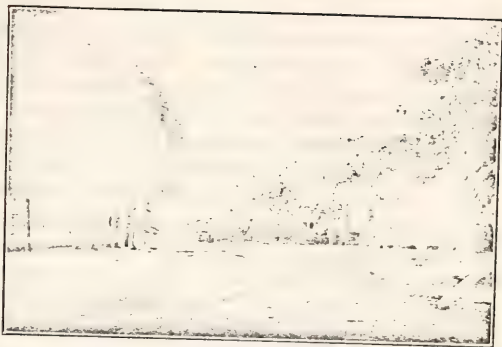
Hang Dog.—A locality lying northwest from the Methodist church at Rocky Hill.

Warrineagues—Whirlneagues—Wollaneag.—In the *Conn. Courant*, October 3, 1894, Judge Adams prints an interesting article, part of which we here reproduce:

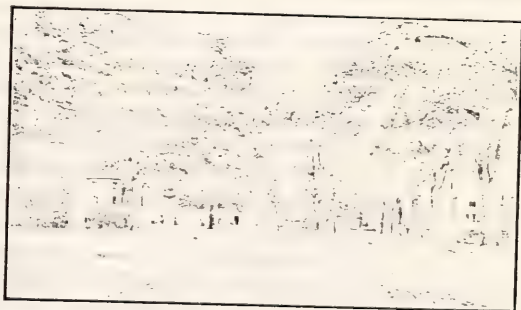
"I remember that, nearly fifty years ago, people then living in the south part of Wethersfield (more especially in the vicinity of the mill pond) were greatly agitated, not to say terrified, by reason of the supposed nightly appearance there of a "wollaneag" (or, as some pronounced it, "woollynig") which haunted that old water-scape. The creature had much the shape of a human being; but it had horns, and was said to exhale and inhale fire, or phosphorescent light; to walk on the water, etc. And, although it was shot at, it was not hit, or at least was not hurt. Many amusing stories were current of the mishaps which it wrought upon unwary travelers; boys, especially.

"It turned out, some months later, that this strange thing was a man (Walter Dewey, I think) who had taken this means to frighten the lads, who had been in the habit of raising the water-gate and "raising Hob" (or Hobgoblin) generally. He had rigged himself most fantastically for that purpose. A few persons were in the secret; and probably some of these were the ones who had shot (or pretended to shoot) at him, without effect.

"In May, 1683, the Court of Assistance, at Boston, tried Mary Webster of Hadley for witchcraft. It was alleged in the indictment against her that, 'not having the fear of God before her eyes, and being instigated by the Devil, she hath entered into covenant and had familiarity with him, in the shape of a *warrancage*.' etc. The late Sylvester Judd, the painstaking historian of Hadley, in commenting upon this



MAIN ST. LOOKING NORTH FROM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.



MAIN ST. LOOKING SOUTH FROM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

VIEWS ON MAIN ST. WETHERSFIELD.

Photo. by Albert Morgan.

trial, says: 'Worraneag, in some Indian dialects, was the same as the Nipmuck wallaneag or woolaneag. It was the fisher, or pecan, or wild black cat of the woods.' So it seems that the name was applicable to a quadruped, as well as to a supposed biped."

"A 'fisher' was the animal known to zoologists as *mustela Pennanti*, or Pennant's weasel, now probably extinct in these parts. It was also called the Pekan weasel. Some naturalists say that it was 'more fox-like than musteline' and that it was sometimes 'as large as a fox.' I have the impression that the term 'fisher' was also sometimes applied to the otter. Perhaps this 'weasel' was the kind referred to by President Dwight in 1796, and which he then mentioned as an animal (in Vermont) of twelve pounds' weight."

"*Punkin-Town*" was a name applied to the Western School District of Rocky Hill; old residents of that section confess to having been called, from their earliest recollection "Punkin-towners," and habitually refer to it by that name.

One of Mr. Adams' correspondents enquires "Did you ever hear of the *Ghost of Goffe's Bride*?" Well, neither Mr. Adams or myself, ever did hear of it; but suggest that the query might have more reasonably read the "*Ghost of Goffe's Bridge*." But, of that also, we are ignorant; unless some other "old settler" will resuscitate it for our edification.

The *Boston Gazette*, of July 30, 1764, has the following item: "We hear from Rocky Hill, in Connecticut, that a negro fellow, belonging to Mr. Boundykee [Brandagee?], having been offended, took a knife with a flint and ran up to the garret, where there was half a barrel of powder open; struck fire therein, which blew him and the roof of the house into the air, and tore him to pieces. A man in the house saw him strike fire once, which did not catch, and saved himself by running down stairs just before the explosion."

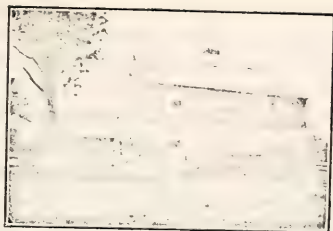
This house stood on the site now (1894) occupied by the new factory, a short distance from the depot of the Valley R. R. Tradition further informs us that this desperate negro's body was found down by the woods south from the building: a hole was dug in the ground, into which he was tumbled and hastily covered over.

Fearful Swamp—*vs.* "Fairfield Swamp"—Concerning the swampy part of the meadow on the west, through which runs the line between the towns of Wethersfield and Rocky Hill, we must insist that the use of the word Fairfield here has no significance; it is a corruption of the ancient and appropriate name, Fearful. Originally, the water which now goes into Wethersfield cove at the Folly, and which first gets up

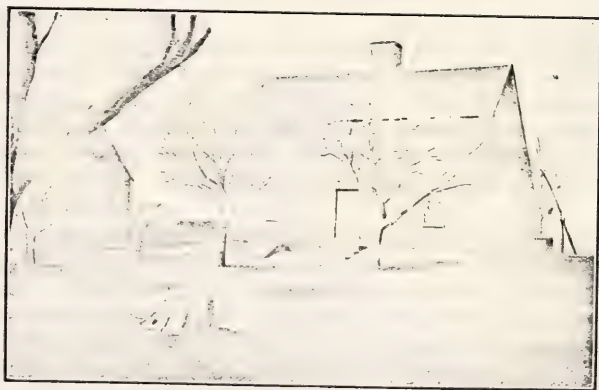
under the east side of Hartford Rocky Hill, all came south along where the Valley railroad runs to Egypt, then crossing the cart road, as now, and keeping south through an arm in the meadow at about the present town line, met Goff's brook from the west and northwest. In the spring these two streams brought a large body of water to this point, and the overflow into the low lands and made a swamp of two or three hundred acres, in which was a heavy growth of swamp oak and maple entangled with bushes and wild vines. "The Fearful swamp" it was called; and Fearful swamp is the proper name for the location.

The Old Elm at Buck's Corner.—In the year 1776, the grandmother of Mr. Henry Buck was standing at the door of her residence, built the year before, on the corner of Wethersfield Avenue and Jordan Lane, when an old and earth-soiled Indian came along with a little sprig of an elm tree under his arm. He pleaded with her to exchange the sprig for a quart of rum, which was at that time kept in every house in New England, and he was so weary and pleaded so hard that her kind heart was touched and the exchange was made. He went off down the road happy with his run; and she stooping down near the house planted the sprig. She has long since gone to her Heavenly home; and the magnificent elm on the south side of Mr. Buck's residence, eighteen feet in circumference and its grand old branches spreading eighty feet above, is the outcome of the little sprig that was planted over one hundred years ago. It is one of the grandest old trees in this town which is remarkable for its many heaven towering elms, and many a time has the writer stood beneath its protecting branches, on a hot summer's day, and recalled, in fancies sweet imagination, the history of its planting so many years ago. About fifty rods east of Wethersfield Avenue where the Valley railroad now crosses, is a little hill, at that time it was the bank of the Connecticut river, and when the ground was broken for the railroad numerous skulls and arrowheads were found indicating that at some time a band of Indians had encamped there. Perhaps the old Indian who gave the people of Wethersfield such a beautiful land mark belonged to that tribe and perhaps he was one of the famed band of Sonquassen, that at one time held undisputed claim to what is now known as Dutch Point.

The Deep Way.—This highway, or part of one, is first mentioned in a town vote of 1672, when a commission was chosen to "run the lines belonging to" it. It is again mentioned in 1674, when the town authorized its repair, so as to make it "passable for carts." It was in the Meadow, at the lower end, between lands of Lieut. John Chester and



THE ANDRUS HOUSE, Newington.



THE *Oldest* GRISWOLD HOUSE now standing in Wethersfield, built 1737, on site of house of Michael Griswold, and occupied (1890) by his lineal descendants, Mrs. Burditt and Miss C. Hurlbut.

"Old" Sam. Smith. In 1673, it was called Dirty Hollow, in a town vote authorizing Lieut. Chester to mend and "heighten" it "with a whelm."

Amobesett.—An aboriginal name for a section of Sandy Plain land, lying partly in Wethersfield, and partly in Middletown; now in Rocky Hill and Cromwell. It was at first shortened to "Besett," and is now commonly called *Bishop's Plain*; to which form it appears to have become permanently corrupted. Mattesett adjoins it on the south.

Farmington Village.—In 1716, the settlement on the "Mile-in-Breadth," near what was afterward called Stanley Quarter, was called Farmington Village in a vote of Wethersfield, which established a highway extending therefrom to "Swamp Village," now the northern part of Kensington.

Swamp Village.—The settlement in Great Swamp parish, which included Beckley's Quarter and vicinity, was so called in our records for a time. It was known by this name in 1716; when a highway through it was ordered by vote of the Town.

Tree Plain.—This was so called in a Town vote of 1713; when liberty was granted to certain persons to erect a sawmill on the stream dividing it from Denning's plain. Tree Plain lay to the west of Denning's plain, which see.

Tappin's Hill.—This was so named from Capt. Thomas Tappan, or Topping, as the name was sometimes written—who owned land there prior to 1640; about which time he removed to Wepawang, afterward called Milford. It was the hill next west of Buck's corner, on Jordan Lane, as it is now called. The latter was then called the "Road to the Country." The name Tappin's Hill appears in a Town vote, as late as 1705.

The Creek.—This is the name given to that hollow (usually more or less filled with water, at its southern extremity), which separates Wright's Island from the Wethersfield Great Meadow. In its place was formerly that part of the river which separated the same sections. It is not probable that the name "Creek" was substituted for that of "River" until after 1770. Indeed, there are deeds of a much later date, wherein the latter name is still given as the eastern boundary of lots adjoining the west side of what we now call the Creek. But, in these cases, usage retained the old name, after the disappearance of the river itself.

[FLOODS, EARTHQUAKES AND CONFLAGRATIONS, 1638-9 to 1854.—In common with the other towns on the Connecticut River,

Wethersfield has witnessed several *remarkable* floods. The first of these was that which occurred in March, 1638-9, and of which Matthew Grant, then Recorder of Windsor, made most careful note, thirty-nine years after its occurrence. It commenced on the 5th of March, an "exceeding great storm," which lasted with more or less violence until the 18th—and "on the 22d, at night, it was well fallen, and yet it was high as the highest flood we had known before"¹—referring evidently to the usual annual spring floods with which this river is visited. It did much damage and the fame thereof went out with the length and breadth of the land, so that Gov. Winthrop mentions it in his *Journal*, where speaking of the southeast storm, which indeed seems to have prevailed all over New England, he says: "There came such a rain withall, as "raised the waters at Connecticut twenty feet above their meadows, etc."²

The next (recorded) great flood was that of 1683, of which *Mather*³ thus speaks:

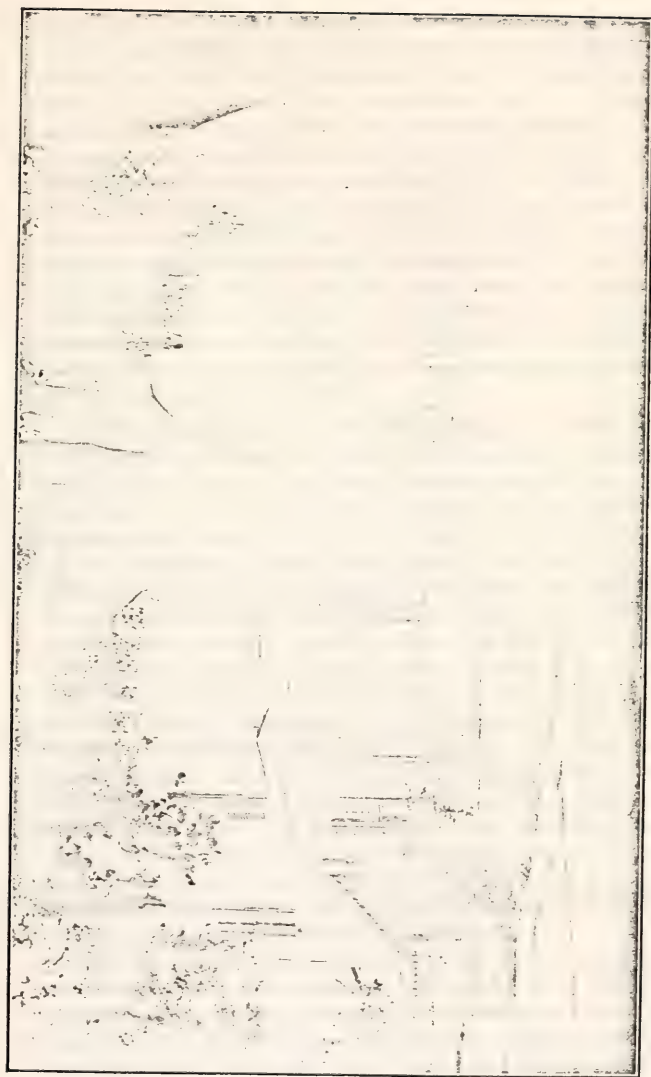
"Some remarkable land floods have likewise happened in New England. Nor is that which came to pass this present year to be here wholly passed over in silence. In the spring time, the great river at Connecticut useth to overflow, but this year it did so after midsummer, and that twice; for, July 20, 1683, a considerable flood unexpectedly arose, which proved detrimental to many in that colony. But on August 13, a second and more dreadful flood came: the waters were then observed to rise twenty-six foot above their usual boundaries; the grass in the meadows, also the English grain, was carried away before it; the Indian corn by the long continuance of the waters is spoiled, so that the four river towns, viz.: Windsor, Hartford, *Wethersfield*, Middle-Town, are extreame sufferers. They write from thence, that some who had hundreds of bushels of corn in the morning, at night had not one peck for their families to live upon. There is an awful intimation of Divine displeasure remarkable in this matter, inasmuch as August 8, a day of public humiliation, with fasting and prayer was attended in that colony, partly on the account of God's hand against them in the former flood, the next week after which the hand of God was stretched out over them again in the same way, after a more terrible manner than at first."

The next "great flood" was that of 1692, when the waters attained

¹ Stiles' *Hist. and Genealogies of Ancient Windsor, Conn.* I. p. 74.

² Winthrop's *Hist. of New England* (Savage's Edition), I. p. 352.

³ *Mather's Remarkable Providences*, the 1856 Edition of the original, pub. at Boston, 1684, p. 232.



THE CHESTER PLACE—RESIDENCE OF MR. E. HART FENN, Built by Hon. Silas Deane, 1764.

the height of 26 feet, 2 inches; then that of 1801, 27 feet, 2 inches; 1839, 23 feet; 1841, 25 feet, 6 inches; 1843, 26 feet, 3 inches; 1852, 23 feet, and 1854, when it reached 28 feet, 10½ inches, above low water mark, being *higher by one foot and eight and a half inches* than any other flood during the 200 years of the town's existence, and one foot, eight and one half inches higher than the celebrated flood of 1801. This flood of 1854, began on April 27th, (a hot day) with a sudden change of temperature of about 30 degrees and a heavy thunder storm, which ran into a settled rain from the Northeast and a thermometer ranging from 38 to 44. On the evening of the 29th, the wind changed to southeast and the already heavy rain increased in violence. For 66 hours (or nearly 3 days and 3 nights) the rain was incessant, often very heavy and for the last 16 hours falling in torrents. May 1st, it came to an end—doing immense damage throughout the whole extent of the river.

The Great Earthquake of 1727.—On the night of the 29th October, 1727, occurred an earthquake, which was very generally felt throughout New England; and as these seismic disturbances were less common then than now, it attracted great attention; and was the cause of several sermons, wherein it was duly “improved” to the religious sense of the community. Among these sermons was one by the Rev. STEPHEN MIX, pastor at Wethersfield, and which is the only one of his sermons known to have been published. From a copy in the Boston Public library (see *ante*, p. 332), we quote the title page, as follows:

“Extraordinary Displays of the Divine | Majesty & Power, are to Try | Men and Impress the Fear of Gad on | their Hearts, that they Sin Not | Being the Substance of | Two Sermons | occasioned by a Terrible | EARTHQUAKE | in New England, | and other parts of North America. | In the Night immediately following the | Sabbath-Day, October 29, 1727 | Publickly Delivered in Wethersfield, on November the 5th and 12th, the Sabbaths | next succeeding the said Earthquake. | Something Enlarged | By Stephen Mix, M. A. | Pastor of a Church there. | Psal. LXXVI. For that thy Name is near, thy | Wondrous Works Declare. | Psal. LXVI, 7. He ruleth by His Power forever. | N. London, Printed by T. Green, 1728. |”

There are two copies of this sermon in the library each bound up in a volume with other sermons. In one of these volumes are other sermons on the same earthquake, by John Cotton, Boston, February 28, 1728; Samuel Wigglesworth, Ipswich, November, 1727; John Fox, at Woburn; “Remarks on the Earthquake,” by Dr. Mather, in Boston, on the morning following the event; also, “A Speech, by one of

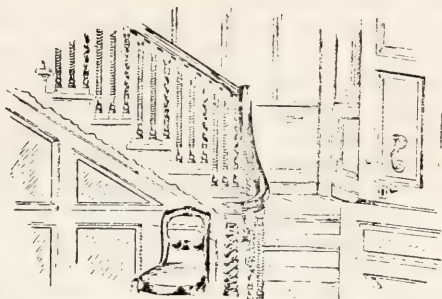
the Ministers of Boston;" a sermon by John Danforth, of Dorchester, November 7, 1727. Several of these sermons contain descriptions of greater or less extent, of the physical effects of the earthquake, in their respective localities.

In Mr. Mix's sermon, there are two pages of prefatory matter, the first paragraph of which is the *only* one dealing with what we now should so much like to know—the *physical* effects of this disturbance. It is as follows: "A. D. 1727, October 29th, Being the Sabbath Day in the Night immediately following, between the Hours of Ten and Eleven, there was an Earthquake in and probably through New England and other parts of Northern America. It came on with a Grave and Heavy Sound (some apprehended the sound as the Burning of a Chimney, other as of remote Thunder) which might possibly be attended with a small Trembling, towards the ending of which Grave Sound, there seemed a very strong shock, and then such shaking that wreck'd the Strong Buildings so sensibly, as it seemed scarcely safe to be in them, awakened Persons out of their sleep, filling many with CON-STERNATION."

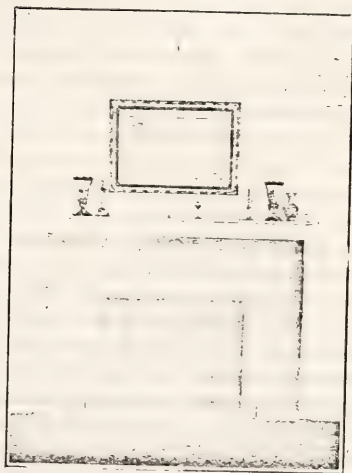
A much more intelligent and valuable record of an equally important natural phenomenon is that given by Rev. John Lewis, pastor of Stepney parish, of the *Great Hurricane* which visited Wethersfield on August, 1787. Mr. Lewis' account of this terrible event was published in the *Conn. Courant*, issue of 18th August, 1783, and is as follows:

"Mr. Lewis addresses himself to "Messrs. PRINTERS" and says: 'When any extraordinary event attended with dreadful effects occurs, the curiosity of the public is excited, and it is proper it should be gratified; such an event occurred on Wednesday the 15th instant in the tremendous hurricane which passed near the north line of the parish of Stepney in this town.' Mr. Lewis next expresses his gratitude to God that the hurricane passed a little to one side of the center of the village; says modestly that he has been gathering facts for three days and even then may have let in errors; but that the account is correct to the best of his belief and plunges into the description which is certainly graphic and interesting even at this late day.

"'On the day I mentioned the wind was very fresh from the southward; at about twelve at noon an unusually black cloud appeared to be ranged from the western to somewhat the northern point, its upper edge was indented and formed irregular columns, something resembling pyramids, which reached to within about 35 degrees of the zenith—the appearance of this cloud, I took notice, was different from the common thunder-cloud being one continued sheet, singly defined at the edges,



FRONT HALL STAIRWAY IN THE SILAS DEANE HOUSE.



FRENCH MANTEL IN THE SILAS DEANE HOUSE.

and not a congeries—it did, however, produce a peal or two of thunder, and a little rain—this happened I think between the hours of one and two o'clock p. m. At about three o'clock p. m. the hurricane was seen to appear near the western boundary of Stepney parish—a violent agitation in the clouds had indeed been before observed in the western quarter; but now, from a rising ground it displayed itself in its full extent, replete with undescribable horror.—A black column from the earth to the cloud, of about thirty rods diameter, so thick that the eye could not pervade it, whirled with amazing velocity and a most tremendous roar—it appeared luminous and ignited, and was charged with broken pieces of fence and huge limbs of trees which were continually crashing against each other in the air or tumbling to the ground. This appearance continued but a few moments; when the columns instantly divided horizontally at a small distance from the earth—the upper part appearing to rise, while the lower part exhibited the appearance which a huge body of thick smoke would do were it dashed by a strong vertical wind, spreading itself to the extent of sixty or eighty rods. At once you might observe it, at a small distance forward, apparently burst from the ground, like the thickest smoke, spread the above distance on its surface, then whirl and contract itself to the size of the column I now describe; but in no instance did the cloud appear to stoop towards the earth. In this manner it appeared, with longer or shorter intervals of the compact column, during the whole space in which I have been able to collect accurate information; with this exception only, that in the easternmost part of the observed space for a considerable distance, it was not seen to be luminous or ignited; though each described its bursting from the earth, as giving them the idea of fire, which they really supposed, until it was past, consuming everything in its way. It moved in a direction, when first noticed, somewhat to the northward of east, but soon changed to nearly east. In this direction and almost instantaneously after it was observed, it arrived at the house of Mr. Wait Robbins, who was himself absent, as were two of his children; his wife, four children, an infant of five months old, a labourer and a female negro servant, made up what of the family were at home; the labourer was at this time in the barn. All observed it nearly at the same time and attempted their escape from the buildings—Mrs. Robbins with her babe in her arms, and two little boys and the labourer fled to the distance of about thirty-five yards, where the labourer past her a few paces, and was overtaken by the hurricane, thrown over a fence into a garden and escaped with little hurt. Near the place where the labourer past them, the two little boys were

found, amidst the rubbish of the demolished building—the eldest, about ten years of age, lifeless, the other it is feared mortally wounded. Mrs. Robbins, with her babe still in her arms, is supposed to be hurled by the violence of the hurricane more than twenty yards back toward the house, for there she was found dead, with the babe lying a few paces distant, wounded, but not mortally. The servant with the other two children, fled on a different course; they were all wounded, but likely to recover.’ This occurrence was evidently what, in these later days, we know as a *cyclone*.

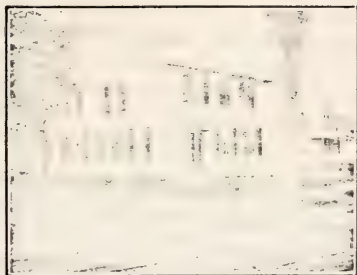
“The account continues with a picture of the vicinity after the cyclone, houses and barns blown away, trees uprooted and carried long distances, the effect at the height of the storm being awful, ‘boards, bricks, timbers and whole trees filling the space from the earth to an amazing height.’ Stone walls were leveled and boards carried over a mile, and some of Mrs. Robbins’s clothing was found in Glastonbury, three miles away. The hurricane caught a sloop in the river and hurled her ashore on her beam ends, and then went through Glastonbury, *Eastbury*, and *Coventry*, where the local report stops.¹ It appears to have started near New Britain and done damage in the south part of Newington, though nowhere so much as in Wethersfield.

All this was one hundred years ago to-day. Had it happened yesterday the story would have been telegraphed all over the country, but probably no account would have equaled in graphic detail or interest the rigidly accurate story of the man who signs himself simply ‘J. Lewis.’ ”

The house here referred to was near the north end of Stepney parish, but the site is now in Wethersfield. Mr. Robbins put up a new house on the site of the one destroyed. It is (1890) occupied by Wm. Griswold, a descendant in a female line, and stands just south of the mattress factory near the north end of Brook Street. Besides Mrs. R. and the boy of 10 killed outright, another child of about 4 died October 23d. The 10-years old son was by name Austin, the younger one Samuel. A dress of Mrs. Robbins was carried to Glastonbury and lodged on a barn on the place where a sister of hers was then living. It is related, on the authority of the mother of the late Charles Williams:

“The morning of the hurricane Mr. Wait Robbins started on horse-

¹ Pres. Stiles, of Y. C., says of this hurricane (*Diary*, III, 277): “It began in New Britain, about 2 p. m., and traversed Glastonbury, Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield, &c. One branch thro’ Windsor. At abt. 6 p. m., reached Malden, Mass. Its greatest severity was at Wethersfield.”



THE ROBERTSON HOUSE.



THE STANDISH HOUSE.

J. B. Standish, Phot'r.

back to go to Vermont. As he was journeying along in the afternoon he became very uneasy about his family and this increased to such an extent that he stopped for the night some miles short of where he intended to have stopped. His anxiety had increased so much during the night that as soon as daylight appeared he was on his return, and some ten miles above Hartford he met the messenger that had been sent to recall him. Many considered it as 'a hand of Providence' in thus warning him."¹—*H. R. S.*]

Conflagrations.—Wethersfield has suffered from two very considerable fires, of sufficient importance to render them memorable in her history. The first of these was in August, 1831, and is thus described in the *Conn. Courant* of the day following:

"Yesterday afternoon about 1 o'clock our citizens were alarmed by the ringing of bells occasioned by the arrival of a messenger from Wethersfield with the intelligence that a destructive fire was raging in that town. Several of our fire Companies with their engines, hose, hooks, etc., and a large number of citizens immediately started for the fire, and arrived in season to render some assistance to the almost exhausted inhabitants of the place. The fire started between twelve and one o'clock in a barn belonging to J. Williams, Esq., and attached to his dwelling house near the meeting house. It immediately communicated to the adjacent buildings and was not finally subdued until five dwelling houses and several barns connected with them were entirely destroyed. The buildings consumed were the house owned and occupied by John Williams, Esq., Mrs. Tryon's house, Dr. Samuel B. Woodward's house, a large building owned by John Williams, Esq., and formerly occupied as a tavern (Allen's), and the house owned and occupied by Miss Brigden was pulled down to keep the fire from spreading.

"The fire was one of the most disastrous we believe ever experienced in the towns in this vicinity, and the ruins extending for some distance in this delightful village present a most melancholy appearance. Part of the property was insured." The fire was of incendiary nature, by a servant girl of Mr. Williams.

The second fire was on August 1st, 1834, commencing at 2 a. m., in an outbuilding occupied by Dr. Cooke, situated about 200 feet in rear of front line of premises of Lockwood Belden (later Comstock, Ferre & Co.), and consumed all of Mr. B.'s barns and seed houses,

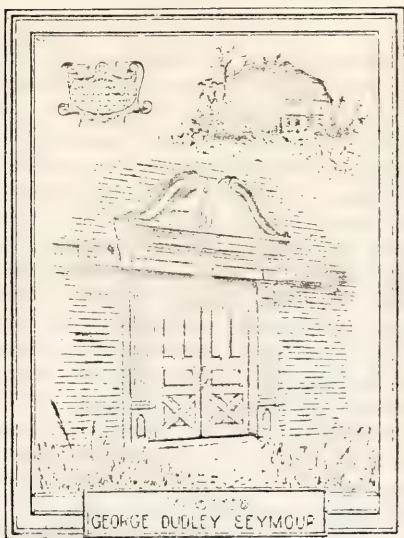
¹ On authority of the mother of Mr. Charles Williams, herself an eye witness of the disaster, and then about nine years old.

seven or eight in number; also, the houses and barns of Roswell Clapp, Dr. Cooke, Levi Goodrich and the shoeshop of O. Harrison. It was supposed to have originated from spontaneous combustion of laboratory material stored in the building occupied by Dr. Cooke. An engine from Hartford arrived in time to render some service; and soon after, this engine was secured for Wethersfield by a popular subscription of \$400.

Other fires (three or four in number) followed at a later date which caused the losses of barns, etc., of Dr. Tenney, James Smith, and others, with Mr. Crane's tavern. Finally a night patrol was organized, which resulted in the capture of the incendiaries.

FISH AND FISHERIES.—*Salmon and Shad*.—In the days of the earliest settlement along the Connecticut River, there seems to have been almost a superabundance of both of these kinds of fish—though they apparently were not greatly prized by the early settlers as articles of food; and certainly not as forming the basis of an important industry, as *fishing* has since become. In 1700, as we learn from Judd (*Hist. of Hadley*), they sold at Hartford at "less than a penny a pound." In Wethersfield, they were so plentiful, that according to tradition, they were to be seen in piles, "like cords of wood," on sale, on the corner lot later occupied by Palmer Southworth. And, at that time, here (as in other Connecticut River towns) it was considered as disreputable for any but "poor folks" to eat shad. It is said, also, that apprentices in binding themselves to their masters, frequently stipulated that salmon should not be served to them as food oftener than twice a week—a statement which (to the Editor's knowledge) has also been made concerning the farm laborers in Scotland, who were living near the salmon streams of that country.

But, just prior to the Revolution, the prejudice against this fish had died away, and fishing for them became a profitable industry. Both salmon and shad were caught in great numbers, and salted for home and foreign consumption. In Wethersfield something of a litigation arose in 1767, for the possession of the fishing place at "the Sands," on the land of John Russell of Wethersfield on the W. side of the river—the creek bounding it on the west, the river east and the highway north. Benjamin, Abraham and Isaac Smith, Gershom Wheeler and David Fox, all of Glastonbury, coveted the exclusive franchise of a fishery at that place, and petitioned the Assembly for a grant thereof, alleging that they had kept the place clear of logs, roots, etc., since 1753, and they desired it for "seining and taking up of salmon, shad," etc. The legislature, however, dismissed their petition, and required them



THE OLD CAPT. CHARLES CHURCHILL HOUSE.
(Newington, Conn.)

The lower view presents the old mansion as it appeared in its latter days, after it began to go to decay. The upper view is Mr. George Dudley Seymour's Library Book plate, showing the fine Colonial front door, and, in the corner a perspective view of the House, in its palmy days.

to pay Mr. Russell his costs of defense." In October, 1778, Wait Goodrich and associates, of Glastonbury, secured the exclusive fishery of *sturgeon* in the Connecticut River for five years.

Next to salmon, the *shad* fisheries were important though that fish was not then held in as high esteem as it now is. Large quantities were salted both for home consumption and exportation, but salted cod and mackerel have, of later years, very generally superseded that of salted shad. In 1845, Wethersfield's exportation of the latter had been reduced to forty-five barrels. At the same date, the amount of salt used here in fish-packing (nearly all the fish being *alewives*—branded as "herring") was 500 bushels." The Connecticut River was originally especially suited to the habits of the salmon. Its numerous tributaries furnished abundant breeding places for them; and arriving in the spring, with the shad, they ascended the river, even as far as Bellows Falls. They sought only the coolest and clearest streams, where the current was the swiftest, and many falls which were too steep for the shad to pass, were overcome by the stronger salmon in order to reach their favorite breeding places. Many of the young fish returned each year to the sea, and having reached maturity made the long journey up the river again, to continue the work of propagating their species.

About 1700, fishing had begun to assume the proportions of an important and lucrative industry. The price of salmon, at Northhampton, in 1775, had risen to two pence a pound, and within the next twenty years had more than doubled. Along the length of the river, as far even as Vermont, a larger number of seines were used every year—the salmon taken being fewer than the shad, but partly compensating in individual size for their lack in numbers—sometimes attaining a weight of 34 or 40 pounds; and it became more difficult to sell; and those who came each year to the fishing grounds to purchase their annual supply of shad, could obtain them only on condition of taking a certain number of salmon. By June, 1791, five and a half pounds of salted salmon were worth 2s. and 6 d., and in July, same year, 3½ pounds sold for 1s. 7d." We have quoted from a most interesting article on this subject, in the *Springfield Republican*, of April 7th, 1897, by Mr. BENJ. ADAMS, of Wethersfield, who has also furnished us with a number of valuable statistics relative to the "catches" of Wethersfield fisheries from this time to the present, but which our space does not permit of our printing.

But, just about the close of the eighteenth century salmon disappeared from the Connecticut with much suddenness—which was probably due to the erection, about 1795, of a dam, at South Hadley, eleven

feet high, and subsequently (about 1798) of another dam, 16 feet high, from shore to shore, below the mouth of Miller's River—by the upper Docks and Canals Company. Before these insurmountable obstacles, the salmon, were obliged to turn back, and could no longer reach their breeding places; and after 1800 had quite disappeared from our waters. In later years an effort was made by the Fish Commissions of the four States touching the Connecticut River to restock the Connecticut River with these fish, but with only partial success; though in the season of 1882, two or three were taken by Wethersfield shad fishers.

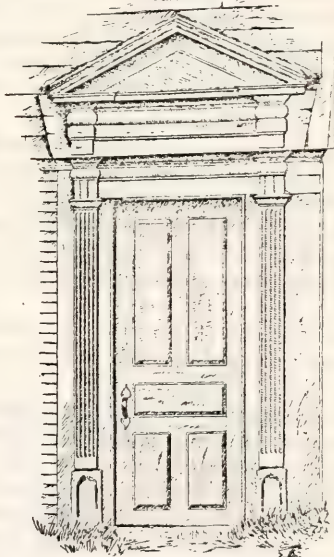
Fisheries in Wethersfield.—Of these the most ancient is probably that now known as "*Bucks*," at "The Cove." The Cove has existed as such, about 200 years, and is noted for its "herring" (alewife) production (though, at times, many shad have been caught here). Hundreds of barrels of these alewives are packed and salted here, annually—and are known in the trade as herrings. The *Sampson Fish Place*, on the east side of the river, opposite the Old Wharf of Wethersfield was long a favorite place for fishermen. Other fisheries are on the southeast shore of the river, on "the Rocks" between the Cove and the river; on the east side of the river, near the present steamboat landing; on both sides opposite to the Great Meadow, and at *The Five Nations*, a noted shad fishery from ancient days, on the west side near Rocky Hill Landing; and again on the east side some distance below. Except at the Cove, most of the fish taken are shad, some of which are caught with gill-nets.

[OPINIONS OF WETHERSFIELD, BY DISTINGUISHED STRANGERS, TRAVELERS, ETC.—Native-born Wethersfieldians have always had a very high and positive opinion as to the exceeding beauty of their town and its surroundings, as well as of the general character of its citizens, for which they cannot be blamed since it has been frequently and amply justified by the comments of many American, as well as foreign travelers and visitors, who have given recorded expression to their sentiments concerning these points. These quotations also serve to afford us somewhat of a progressive view of its growth.

First, we offer our readers the humorous description of the town and its inhabitants, given by the Rev. SAMUEL PETERS:

"Wethersfield is four miles from Hartford, and more compact than any town in the Colony. The Meeting-house is of brick, with a steeple, bell and clock. The inhabitants say it is much larger than Solomon's Temple. The Township is ten miles square, parishes four. The people are more gay than polite and more superstitious than religious.

THE CHURCHILL HOUSE NEW
INGTON PARISH WETHERS-
FIELD BUILT ABOUT 1720.
BY CAPTAIN CHARLES
CHURCHILL THE SOUTH
DOOR.



THE SOUTH DOORWAY of the Churchill
House; and Antique Lamp found in
the house.

By Courtesy of Geo. Dudley Seymour, Esq.

This town raises more onions than are consumed in all New England. It is a rule with parents to buy annually a silk gown for each daughter above seven years old, until she is married. The young beauty is obliged, in return, to weed a patch of onions with her own hands, which she performs in the cool of the morning before she dresses for breakfast. This laudable and healthy custom is ridiculed by the ladies in other towns, who idle away their mornings in bed, or in gathering the pink, or catching the butterfly to ornament their toilets, while the gentlemen, far and near, forget not the Wethersfield ladies' silken industry."¹

President JOHN ADAMS visited Wethersfield in June, 1771, and again in August, 1774.² On the former visit, he says:

"At eleven o'clock arrived at Wright's³ in Wethersfield. * * * Here is the finest ride in America, I believe; nothing can exceed the beauty and fertility of the country. The lands upon the river, the flat lowlands, are loaded with rich, noble crops of grass and grain and corn."

On his second visit he was the guest of Mr. Silas Deane, where he was "most cordially and genteelly entertained with punch, wine and coffee," and by whom he was informed that 30,000 bushels of flax seed were sent to New York, yearly, in exchange for salt. He says, also, "We went up the steeple of Wethersfield Meeting House, from whence is the most grand and beautiful prospect in the world, at least, that I ever saw."

Mons. BRISSOT DE WARVILLE, a traveled Frenchman, also passed through Wethersfield in 1788, and leaves this record of his impressions of the town:⁴

"On quitting Hartford you enter Wethersfield, a town not less elegant, very long, consisting of houses well built. They tell me it gave birth to the famous Silas Deane, one of the first promoters of the American Revolution; from a schoolmaster in this town elevated to the rank of an Envoy from Congress to Europe; he has since been accused of betraying this glorious cause. Is the accusation true? It is difficult to decide. But he has been a long time miserable in London; and it is in favour of the goodness of heart of the Americans to recount that his best friends and benefactors are still among the ancient American Whigs.

¹ Rev. Samuel Peters' *General History of Conn.*, London, 1781; p. 138, of Am. reprint of 1877.

² *Life and Works of John Adams*, II, pp. 272, 341.

³ Elijah Wright's—ment. on Town Rec. as early as 1767.—*H. R. S.* Silas Deane in that yr. employed him to make 130 bbls. of cider.

⁴ *New Travels in the United States of America*, performed in 1788, By J. P. Brissot de Warville, Translated from the French, London, 1792, p. 133.

"Wethersfield is remarkable for its vast fields uniformly covered with onions of which great quantities are exported to the West Indies. It is likewise remarkable for its elegant meeting-house, or church. On Sunday it is said to offer an enchanting spectacle by the number of young and handsome persons assembled there, and by the agreeable music with which they intermingling the divine service."

President MONROE, also, contributes his mite to the general symposium of praise of Wethersfield.¹ His biographer says:

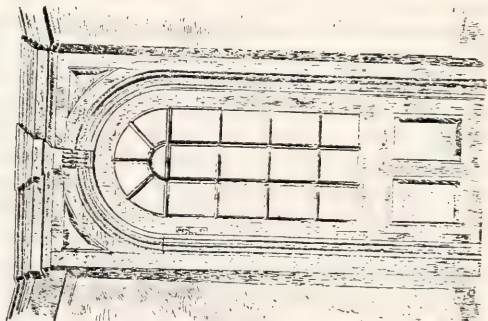
"In the afternoon (23 June, 1817), leaving Middletown, the President was accompanied on his way to Hartford, for three or four miles, by a large number of citizens, many of whom, together with a Troop of Horse, escorted him as far as Wethersfield (twelve miles from that place), where they were met by the inhabitants and military of that town, and of Hartford, who conducted him to that city in very handsome style. * * * * * Upon his arrival at Wethersfield they found a large collection of citizens ready to greet his arrival. But their acclamations could not drive from his recollection his early Congressional friend, the Hon. Stephen Mix Mitchell, a resident there, who had recently retired from the office of Chief Justice of Connecticut. He paid him a visit, and although the frost of age was visible upon their honored heads, their hearts warmed with fervor upon their meeting after a long absence. The interview was short, but delightful.

"On Monday (the 23d) from previous arrangement the first company of the Governor's Horse Guards, under the command of Major Buck, repaired to Wethersfield to receive the President. A large concourse of citizens, from this and the neighboring towns, also assembled and escorted the President to the South Green in this city."

Two years later than this chronicle, *Pease & Niles' Gazetteer of Conn. & R. I.*, pp. 89-90, gives the following information about the town:

"Wethersfield is about six miles square, containing 23,000 acres. This is an excellent township of land, having an undulating surface and exhibiting a beautiful diversity of hill and dale. The soil is generally a rich gravelly and sandy loam, but in the western part of the town, argillaceous loam prevails, and some small sections in the centre may be considered as a garden mould. It is well adapted to grass and grain and particularly to esculent roots. The tract of alluvial upon Connecticut river is extensive and beautiful, and very productive. The clay of Hartford does not extend to Wethersfield, but on the contrary there

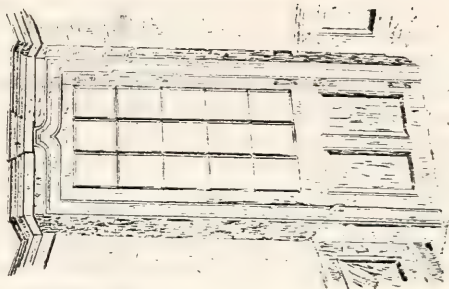
¹ *Tour of James Monroe* * * * * in the year 1817, By S. P. Waldo, p. 94.



A BAY-WINDOW IN THE WAINSCOTED PARLOR.

IN THE CAPT. CHARLES CHURCHILL HOUSE, NEWINGTON.

By Courtesy of Geo. W. Seymour, Esq.



A CORNER CUPBOARD.

IN THE CAPT. CHARLES CHURCHILL HOUSE, NEWINGTON.

By Courtesy of Geo. W. Seymour, Esq.

are some small sections of silicious sand. Among other agricultural interests in the town, the cultivation of onions has long held a conspicuous rank. This is an important agricultural pursuit, although it occupies but a small portion of land, and the service is principally performed by females. Wethersfield onions have long been justly celebrated and are exported to the Southern States and the West Indies for a market. The onions when prepared for market, are sorted and arranged into Ropes or Bunches consisting of a number strung together, of which it has been estimated, that there are from a million to a million and a half raised annually, and sent abroad. This is the only town in the state which makes a business of the cultivation of this excellent root. It is peculiarly novel and interesting on passing through the town in the month of June to behold in every direction the extensive fields of onions. Whilst in a luxurious state for vegetation the growing vegetable exhales its strong savour. The atmosphere becomes impregnated and the luscious qualities of the onion are wafted far and wide upon every passing breeze.

"The business of navigation has received considerable attention in this town, and it possesses considerable tonnage. Ship-building also has frequently been carried on, but the commercial and maritime interests of the town have not increased for some years past.

"The population of Wethersfield in 1810, was 3,931 and there are now 500 electors, 300 militia, and about 600 dwelling houses. There are 5 Distilleries, 4 Tanneries, 3 Grain Mills, 2 Saw-Mills, 3 Fulling Mills, 2 Carding Machines, 15 Mercantile stores and one Rope-walk. The list of the town in 1817 was \$67,627."

Pease & Niles, (p. 75), under the head of Glastonbury also, say:

"In the eastern part of the town there is a pond of about a mile in circumference called 'Diamond pond,' from the circumstance of there being small pebbles or stones around its margin having peculiar brilliancy. Near the centre of the town there is a mineral spring, which, though it has acquired no celebrity abroad, has been thought by men of science, who have examined it to possess valuable medical qualities; and for more than one hundred years has been known in the vicinity by the name of the 'Pool at Nipsuck.'"

The learned and eminent Pres. DWIGHT of Yale College, in 1823, gives the following lengthy and critical statement concerning Wethersfield, as one of the principal towns of New England which attracted his attention on an extensive tour through the Eastern States:¹

¹ *Dwight's Travels in New England and New York*, 1823, I, 192.

"Wethersfield lies on the Connecticut River, 11 miles No. of Middletown and 4 So. of Hartford. The soil is probably not inferior to that of any township in the State. The intervals, which are large, are of the richest quality, and the uplands, when well cultivated, are very productive. The nature and value of intervals I shall have occasion to describe hereafter. It will be sufficient to observe here, that they are lands formed by alluvian, and are usually of the highest fertility. At the same time, they are ordinarily fashioned with a degree of neatness and elegance, which is unrivalled. This township contains three parishes, *Stepney*, already mentioned, in the South: *Newington*, on the Northwest, and *Wethersfield* proper, on the Northwest. The town of Wethersfield is chiefly built in the N. E. part of the parish, bordering upon the River. Of the three principal streets, two run from North to South, parallel with the general course of the River, and the third from Southeast to Northwest, along the banks of a large Cove formed in the N. E. quarter of the township. The site of the Town, and the prospects of the surrounding country, are very pleasant. The houses, taken together, are neither so well built, nor so well repaired, as those of their neighbors. Forty years since they appeared better than those of any town in the State. From some reason, or other, imperfectly known to me, Wethersfield has not kept pace with the general improvement of the country. Many of the houses are, however, good, and several very good. The inhabitants have, for many years, cultivated onions as an article of commerce. Many parts of the American coast and the West Indian Islands, furnished a market for this commodity, and the fertility of the soil insured regularly a rich crop. While the market lasted, this was the most profitable article of culture known in the country. Ninety perches of land have, in a single year, yielded about \$200. It was not to be expected that a source of so much profit would be unobserved by their countrymen. Various rivals accordingly attempted to gain a share of these advantages: the market became overstocked and the business dwindled in value. It is, however, still a source of profit.

"The regular production of a considerable staple production is, I suspect, attended with several disadvantages to those by whom it is produced. It becomes an object of particular attention to the merchant, and will be more exposed to systematized schemes of over-reaching, than a mass of mixed and various produce. The farmer, who employs himself in the cultivation of onions, will, through the cold season, have neither cattle to feed nor grain to thresh. During this period he will scarcely fail of being idle a considerable part of his time, and of be-



Broudbent-pingit.

THE OLD GRISWOLD HOUSE (GRISWOLDVILLE).

This photo. from a drawing made by Samuel Broudbent, dec'd, was furnished by the late Commander Edward Hooker, U. S. N.

taking himself to unprofitable company-keeping, or other resorts, which are both expensive and mischievous."

Then, as if to soften the implication of this last remark, the President goes on to say:

"The inhabitants of Wethersfield are distinguished for their attachment to order and government. The gentlemen and ladies are highly distinguished for the possession of those qualities which especially furnish the pleasure of refined society."

He then narrates the story of the Beadle Murders (see p. —, this Vol.), and gives the following statistics, viz.: Wethersfield, in 1756, had 2,374 white inhabitants, and 109 blacks; in 1774, 3,347 whites and 142 blacks; in 1800, although a considerable part of the town had been annexed to Berlin, 4,105 inhabitants, of whom 95 were blacks; and in 1810, 3,961 inhabitants.

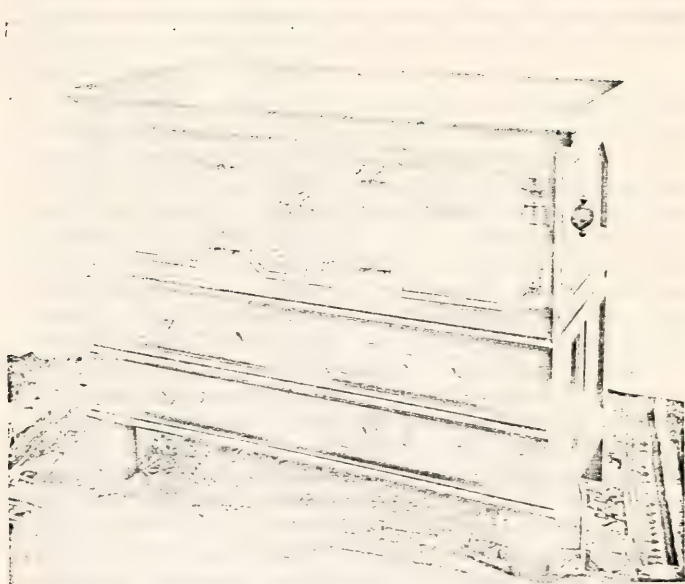
From all this distinguished testimony which we have quoted, it is to be seen that, despite time's changes, and the passing of many generations, Wethersfield still retains the four distinctive features with which these various commentators have credited her, viz.: (1) the exceeding *loveliness of her site and surroundings*; (2) the glory of *her onion beds*; (3) the acknowledged *superior educational eminence and refinement of her society*; and (4) the architectural beauty of *her Meeting-House*, which, as the Rev. Peters said, a hundred years ago, was considered by her people, as "much larger than Solomon's Temple!", and which in later years has been renovated with such superior architectural taste, as to bid fair to retain its supremacy over that ancient fane, for another hundred years to come.—*H. R. S.*]

[OLD HOUSES AND OLD TAVERNS.—The dwellings erected by the first settlers of Pyquaug, undoubtedly were mere *huts*, or "shacks," differing but little—excepting being a trifle more substantially built—from the Indian wigwams which the white man found on their first coming here.¹ The *log-house* similar to that of the Western emigrant, of a later period, soon followed, and these, in turn—as the exigencies and dangers of a first settlement were surmounted and peace and stability assured—were succeeded by a better class of houses—two stories high, low

¹ Probably the *very first* shelter which some of the Wethersfield settlers occupied, may have been what are called in old deeds and records, "cellars"; i. e. an excavation made in the face of a bank or hill, and roofed, or covered with boughs or pieces of the bark of trees, or with planks—such refuges as are even now known in our extreme Western settlements as "dug-outs." The first settlers of Windsor, had such accommodations on Sandy-Bank—See Stiles history of that town.

between joints, containing two large square rooms, above and below, with a chimney in the centre and steep roofs. Occasionally, the social standing, or the financial ability of the owner was emphasized by the addition of a porch to the front door, eight or ten feet square, of the same height as the main building. On the lower floor, this porch was either enclosed, as a sort of vestibule, or left open and supported on pillars; its upper portion forming an additional room on the second floor. This class of building, we think, came into use not much earlier than 1675 or '90; by which time, also, a modification of this style of house had begun to appear, in which the need of more room for the growing family was met by the *scant*, or *lean-to*, added to the rear of the building, leaning towards the upright part of the latter, and continuing the rear roof down to the height of the first story. This afforded a kitchen, a buttery and another bedroom; and, with the addition of a chimney, and a fireplace in the kitchen, became an established *order* of New England domestic architecture. It is not easy, however, to differentiate clearly the various "styles" or *orders* which have prevailed in the past, according to any fixed periods of time. They always have, and will *lap over*, somewhat. Of this last described kind of house, the old *Andrus* house, in Newington, the old *Griswold* house in Wethersfield, and the old *Jonathan Boardman* house in Rocky Hill, were good examples.

The next form of house, to which we come in our synopsis of these orders, seems to have been that of the so-called *upright* houses two stories high (and somewhat higher between joints) with a capacious garret in the peak of the roof, which, perhaps, was not quite so steep as its predecessors. These houses on the ground floor were sometimes divided by a broad hall, from front to rear, from the rear end of which rose the stairway to the floor above; and from which on either side opened the doors of the best-room, or "Parlor" and the Dining Room. Upstairs, or second floor, was a similar, though not quite so wide, hall, from which opened two large square bedrooms. The *Boardman* house, at S. W. end of Broad Street, Wethersfield (1719-1857) built for Corbet Joseph, by his father Sammel, was a fair example of this kind of house; as was also the *Standish* house in Wethersfield. In some of these houses, however, the front door opened merely into a little square hall, or vestibule, which disclosed the doors of two large rooms on either side and a winding and somewhat steep staircase leading up to the second story. Of this, we have an instance in the cut of the *Silas Deane* house. Houses of this style and period (about 1750-1780) generally possessed the dignity of two chimneys, and the form of the



THE OLD BOARDMAN CHEST, 1680-1700.

In possession of William F. J. Boardman, Hartford, Conn

roof was sometimes that known as *gambrel*—i. e., with a “hip”—(angle, or rise) between the eaves and the roof-tree, both on the front and rear of the house, as seen in the *Webb* and the *Robbins* mansions, and also (markedly so) in the picture of the *Old Fish House*—if it be not desecration to couple the latter with the two former as illustrations of this peculiar style of roof. Many houses of this period also had the peculiarity of a long heavy timber passing through the centre of many of the rooms, overhead. This timber, usually 12 inches square, was generally covered with nicely planed boards, where it projected below the level of the lath and plaster of the ceiling; though in some instances it was left uncovered, showing the marks of the adze with which it had been squared.—*H. R. S.*]

Wethersfield has reason to feel proud of some of these old Colonial dwellings yet standing in her streets, sound of timber, and full of hal-lowed recollections of the olden times and the noble men and women who have lived in them, or the distinguished personages who have enjoyed their hospitality. Of such, pre-eminently, is the *WEBB* House, on the West side of Main Street, just below the terminus of the horse railroad. This fine old historic building was erected by Mr. Joseph Webb, about or prior to 1753. He died in 1761, aged 35 years, and leaving two sons, viz.: Joseph, aged 12 and Samuel Blatchley (afterwards Col. and Brevet Brig.-Gen. in the Continental Army), aged 8 years. Joseph, Jr., became a prominent citizen and merchant in Wethersfield and married in 1774, Abigail (daughter of Col. John) Chester, and she was the hostess who entertained Washington during his few days stay in the town in 1780. The social standing, ample means and generous nature of the Webbs, won for their residence, during the Revolutionary period, the widely recognized title of “Hospitality Hall;” but its special glory is in having been honored by the presence of Washington and his military and official friends on several occasions of importance to the liberties of America, as has been fully told in our chapter on the War of the Revolution. The bedroom occupied by the illustrious guest is the N. E. chamber of the second story, and its furniture, even to the paper on the walls, has been kept intact until the present time. In the parlor below this chamber was held the celebrated conference of 1780, with Count Rochambeau, Gov. Trumbull, Col. Wadsworth and others. The house, now owned and occupied by Dr. Frank N. Welles, is in a fine state of preservation, and has received no external changes, or additions, except that of a porch to the front door, and a repainting more in consonance with modern taste than its original color of red.

Next south of the Webb house is the SILAS DEANE house, now occupied by E. Hart Fenn, Esq. In August, 1765, Deane (afterwards Special Envoy and Commissioner, with Benjamin Franklin, to the Court of France to secure the aid of that nation) bought from Dea. John Stillman two and three-fourths acres of land, on which he builded this house. Deane afterwards failed, and in January, 1789, one McEwen of New York, a creditor, sold to Stephen (son of Col. John) Chester, one-fourth of an acre "with the house built by Silas Deane;" and Chester, in 1793, bought the remainder of the property from Deane's administrator. It was this Deane-Chester-Fenn house which seems to have sheltered Washington and his military staff, when on his way, June 30, 1775, to Cambridge, to take command of the army. On this occasion, Mr. Deane, writing June 22d, to his wife at Wethersfield, from Philadelphia, where he was attending the Continental Congress, says:

"This will be handed you by His Excellency General Washington, in company with Gen. Lee and retinue. Should they lodge over night in Wethersfield, you will accommodate their horses, servants, etc., in the best manner, at the taverns, and their retinue will likely go to Hartford."

Mrs. Deane, to whom this letter of introduction was addressed, was Elizabeth (daughter of Col. Gurdon) Staltonstall, and Deane's second wife, a lady fully competent, both by birth and accomplishments, to extend the honors of her husband's house to these distinguished guests.

It is a well substantiated tradition of the "Chester Place," as it is now called, that in its parlor, the General was measured for a pair of boots, by the village shoemaker. Oh fortunate Crispin, in being thus privileged; yet most unfortunate in that thy name has not been handed down to posterity!

[Next south of the "Chester Place" is an almost equally old house, of the same type, the gambrel roof of which has been remodelled to a straight incline. This is the *Robertson* house, once occupied by the late Dr. Ashbel Robertson, who purchased it, about 1816, from Dr. Barwick Bruce, from whom its ownership can be traced back to Silas Deane, 1769, and to John Stillman, who bought it, in 1737, from Jonathan Goodrich, and this date *may* indicate the age of the building. Dr. Robertson, for many years, carried on a merchantile business, sold wines and liquors (under a license) and practiced medicine. His store, with roof cut down and a brick front added, is now occupied by Comstock, Ferre & Co., as a seed warehouse, a little further up the same street. The mansion is now occupied by Mr. Austin Robertson, a son of the old



THE OLD GOODRICH WARDROBE OR PRESS, about 1665.

FROM THE HOUSE BUILT BY CAPTAIN ELIZUR GOODRICH (ABOUT 1750), IN WETHERSFIELD, CONN.

In possession of William F. J. Boardman.

doctor, and one who has been a very efficient help in the compiling of this volume.

The Webb, Deane and Robertson houses all stand upon property originally belonging to the Wolcott Family, of which Capt. Samuel Wolcott, grandson of the Hon. Henry, of Windsor, was the first representative in Wethersfield. The Robertson property south of the R. dwelling house belonged, prior to 1825, to the Rev. John Marsh, who became possessed of it, in 1782. The MARSH house is still standing, in a good state of preservation, as also is the STANDISH house, a fine and well kept relic of earlier days.

The CHESTER house was a large mansion, on the West side of Broad Street, in the "Chester Lot," as it is still called. It was the house next south of the old *Crane Tavern*, of which elsewhere, we give a picture; and was the home of the Revolutionary Chesters.

On the east side of Broad Street is *another* CHESTER homestead, dating back, perhaps, to 1730. It is now occupied by Mr. W. H. Skaats and stands nearly upon the site of the *original Leonard Chester* homestead, and was, undoubtedly the home of the earlier generations of Chester, though not generally known at the present day, as being a Chester house. Many years ago one-half the building was removed to another location, and became the Adams' house.

The WILLIAMS house, a large building at the upper end of Broad Street, built on land sold from the street, by vote of the Town, was erected by Sheriff Ezekiel Williams; became later, the home of Parson Tenney and is not owned and occupied by Mrs. Elizabeth Savage.

The "Squire JOHN" WILLIAMS home, on the east side of High Street, next north of the Congregational church is the home of Mrs. W. W. Andrews and her sister, Mrs. Mary D. McLean, to whom our readers are indebted for much of the interest of this history.

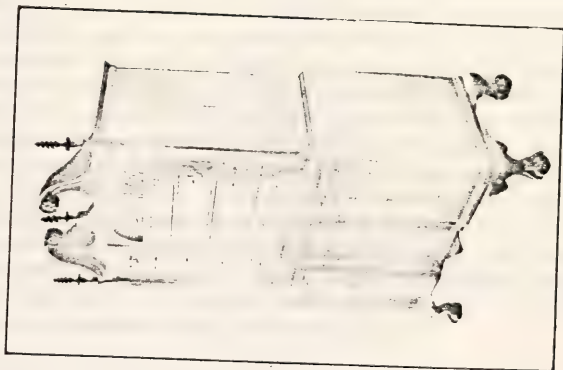
On Wolcott Hill, about a mile W. from the centre of the village is a large, white, 2-story house, and which some have supposed was erected by Capt. Samuel Wolcott, who came hither from Windsor and settled in 1656, and d. in 1695, and whose table-monument in the Wethersfield old cemetery bears upon its face the family arms, elaborately engraved, as portrayed in the cut here given. But, we think its builder, more probably, was his son Maj. Samuel, who died in 1734, or his grandson Capt. Samuel. At all events, we are inclined to place its erection at about the same time as that of the Webb house. It is most substantially built throughout, and its walls all lined with large thin bricks—one of which was lately found bearing the name "Samuel," evidently impressed upon it before being baked. Mrs. J. W. Griswold, a daugh-

ter of the house, informs us that it was purchased from the Chauncey Wolcott estate, in 1857, and presented to the wife of Dea. John Welles, by her grandmother Welles; and was occupied by Dea. Welles' family until his death in 1898. It is now owned by Mr. Howard P. Bourne. A peculiar feature of interest is the Wolcott arms painted (evidently a long time ago, as its artistic style betrays) on the wall, over the mantel of the north parlor. This painting, of which we here give a photographure, was some few years ago, retouched by a local painter, and the family motto introduced into the scroll below the shield.—*H. R. S.*]

About ten rods south of the Robertson house, there stood in Revolutionary times, a tavern (property later owned and occupied by the father of Hon. Silas W. Robbins) in the old barn of which tradition used to say that Gen. Washington's horse was stabled, on the occasion of the General's visit to Wethersfield; and some 50 rods up Main Street stood the old STILLMAN TAVERN, which may possibly have been the tavern, in which, in 1763, Mr. Ingersoll, the obnoxious Stamp-Master, succumbed to the will of the people. See p. —, *ante*.

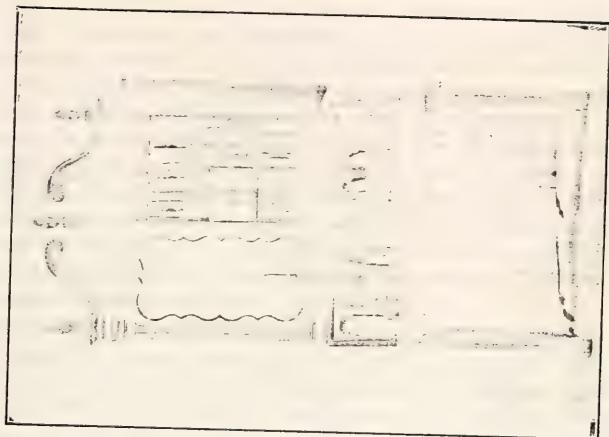
[The Town of *Newington* held two very old and interesting dwellings—the ANDRUS and the CHURCHILL houses.—The former, near the old David Lowry place, and a few rods S. of the meeting house, was built in 1684, by Dea. Joseph (son of John) Andrus, who came from Farmington and erected a sawmill, at the pond, now known as the Centre Mill-pond. In the early days of Indian warfare it was stockaded and used as a fort, to which the people could fly in times of danger. It remained in the Andrus family until the death of the last of the name, Amos, in 1826, who devised his property to Newington Church, from which it was purchased by Gen. Martin Kellogg, grandfather of Mrs. H. M. Robbins, who was its owner, at the time of its destruction by fire in December, 1897.

The CHURCHILL HOUSE, in its day a fine example of good Colonial architecture, was erected by Capt. Charles Churchill, the son of Ensign Samuel, and great grandson of Josiah Churchill, the first of the name in Newington. He was born in 1723, a man of means, of marked ability in local, public and military affairs; married Lydia Belden of Newington; was licensed as a "taverner" by the County Court in June, 1747; served as a lieutenant in Capt. Hezekiah Welles' Co., in Gen. Wolcott's Brig. of State Troops before Boston, from January to March, 1776, and by January, 1779, was Captain in the 2d Regiment of the 1st Militia Brigade in which his company rendered some service; in 1786, he was chosen a Deacon in the Newington Church, and died in



AN ANCIENT HIGH BOY.

By Courtesy of Miss E. E. Dana.



FURNITURE IN THE DR. MARSH HOUSE. THE DOCTOR'S BOOKCASE.

October, 1802. About 1754, he erected the fine mansion represented in the accompanying illustration, and which, even in its present ruined state, fully indicates its claim to having been one of the finest dwellings of its day in the Colony of Connecticut.¹ It was a large, two story, gambrel-roofed structure; most substantially built, and in its architectural details (especially the mouldings of its doors and windows) much more ornate than most dwellings of its class. Besides seven open fireplaces, the house contained *four great ovens*, one of which is said to have been large enough to roast an entire ox; and the tradition is preserved that, on one occasion, when Washington and Lafayette were entertained here, *all* these four ovens were in full blast. One of the rooms of the house is said to have been papered with the depreciated Continental currency which Capt. Churchill had received in payment for supplies furnished to the army.—II. R. S.]

From Dr. R. W. Griswold's notes, we learn of a building in *Rocky Hill*, called "THE LONG TAVERN," and a noted tavern-stand for many years ago. He describes it as being between the Old Sail Loft and Wait Williams' store, and near the present R. R. station and that its barn and horse-shed backed up within a few feet of the Old Sail Loft building, leaving only a small alleyway between, which marked the division between the Josiah Grimes' property and the Township Yard Reservation. It was originally owned by Grimes, and, for many years, was kept by the widow Abigail Robbins, a daughter of Josiah Grimes and third wife of Mr. Frederick Robbins. It was built partly of brick and partly of stone, and at different periods. The north half was esteemed the oldest portion and as having been built about 1754, by Oliver Pomeroy; but we think the south portion remaining to later days and known as "the Long House" or Tavern, was probably his addition to a part previously existing. It has been gone for more than half a century, and like many of the taverns of that day, had a nine-pin alley attached to it. Dr. G. also notes that in about what was the middle front chamber of the older half of the house was a fireplace, quite unique in character—being oval in form from the hearth up, the back curved in under in a cavernous shape, quite different from the usual form of the old fireplaces—and which would, in these days, have been considered "quite a study for an artist."

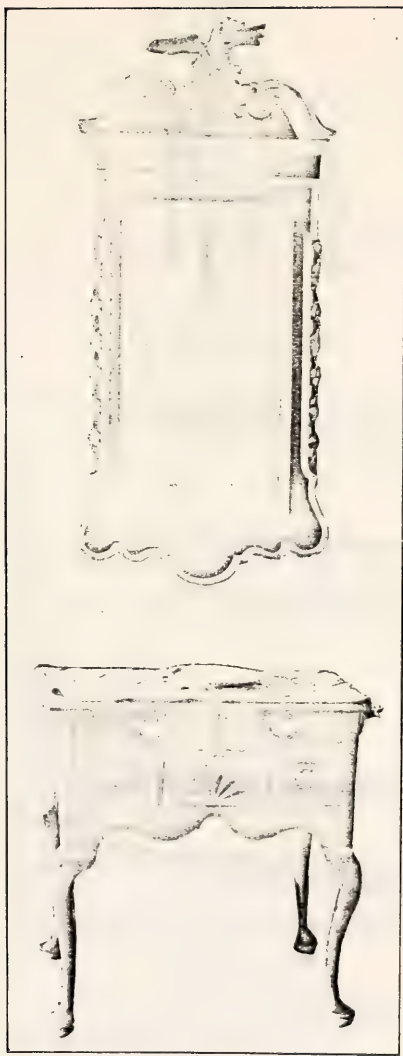
¹ For this, and the other illustrations showing the details of its construction, we are indebted to GEO. DUDLEY SEYMOUR, Esq., of New Haven, a descendant of the family. Especially interesting is the photo of Mr. Seymour's book-plate, giving a sketch of the front door of the old mansion, together with (in the corner of the plate) a perspective view of the house itself.

About the same time, one Polly Dickinson kept a tavern of considerable repute at Rocky Hill, in her house S. E. cor. of Ferry Street, N. of the Roderick Grimes place; and on the authority of the late Charles Williams, it is said that "Aunt Polly could brew a mug of flip that few, even in those days, could refuse." Mr. Williams adds, "I am reminded that poor indeed was the family that did not have its keg, or large jug of beer in the cellar, for winter flip. In private houses the fire-end of the andiron was used to heat the flip, instead of the regular flip-iron."

Mr. Williams also says: "The large house formerly standing on the E. side of the highway and N. of the Burying-ground, probably one of the earliest buildings in the town of Rocky Hill, and later known as "the Granny Griswold place" was, for sometime, kept as a public house. I never heard of it as a tavern—but, it was in old time parlance, "THE VILLAGE INN." Its large room was often used, in winter, for dancing. Old people, when I was a boy, used to relate how in their youth, they met in this room, for such enjoyment; but when the old clock struck 9 p. m., the proprietor would appear, with "Boys and girls! it is nine o'clock—time you were home!" Then they would go downstairs and pay the bill—generally about ten shillings, which was not a high price, considering that paper money was then worth but ten cents on the dollar, and twenty-five cents covered all expenses. They danced to the scraping of a fiddle, but no refreshments were served to them.

The Shipman Hotel, Rocky Hill.—At what time this house first became a tavern, is unknown. The main (south) building was erected by Capt. Wait Robbins in the latter part of the 18th century, and a Samuel Bull kept there about (and before) 1800; then Simon Williams, who built the hall in front; then a Mr. Foster; then, about 1818, Mr. Samuel Dimock; followed by Benjamin Robbins, Burrage Meriam, Joel W. Smith (15 years). Isaac Bell, Robert Archibald, James Robbins, 1834-37, and Samuel Shipman until his death, about 1875. It had a nine-pin alley, and during Mr. Shipman's time, the house became quite a famous resort for parties from Hartford, both in summer and winter, in which latter season, the dance hall drew many sleighing parties. Mrs. Shipman had the reputation of being a splendid cook, especially of Connecticut River shad in its season; the customers were generally of the better class—prices rather high, and it was the "high-bucks" of the day who mostly resorted there. The house was closed after Mr. Shipman's death.

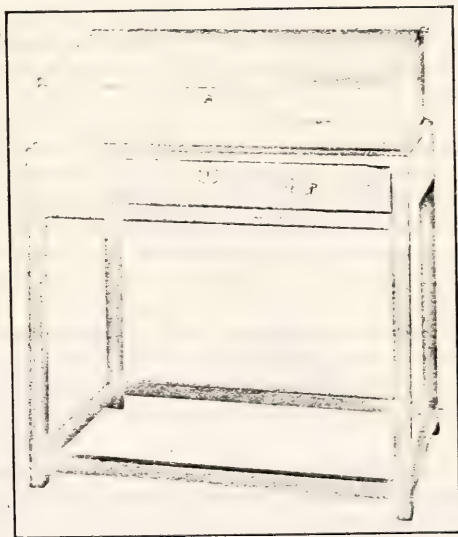
Between 1857-8, Joel T. Green, who married Catharine (daughter of Wm. L.) Webb, rebuilt the large gambrel-roofed house, then (and



ANCIENT MIRROR AND LOW BOY, in the Rev.
Dr. Marsh House.



THE DOCTOR'S ARM CHAIR.



THE DOCTOR'S DESK.

FURNITURE IN REV. DR. MARSH'S HOUSE.

By Courtesy of Miss E. E. Dana.

earlier) known as the William Griswold place, where Mr. Blinn now resides, and opened it as the *Rocky Hill Hotel*, kept it four or five years and sold out to Lyman Dickinson, who died soon, and for a short time it was kept by James Flower; then by a Mr. Thorp, then by Geo. W. Ryer, who after some twelve or fifteen years closed it and bought the Geo. R. Chamber's house opposite the North School House, where he, for many years, kept the *Hotel de Ryer*.

In Griswoldville, down to within some 30 years ago, there stood an old *Griswold dwelling*, of a very fine type, a picture of which we give here, from a drawing made by the late Samuel Broadbent, Jr. For this engraving we are indebted to the late Commander Edward Hooker, U. S. N. (retired), of Brooklyn, N. Y., who like Mr. Broadbent and Judge Adams was a descendant of this Griswold family. Of this dwelling, demolished in 1875, Judge Adams says: "The land on which the house stood is supposed to have been that sold by Capt. Robert Welles (grandson of Gov. Thos. Welles, to Jacob Griswold (son of Michael, the Settler), in June, 1703. It is believed that he built the house about 1712. But the Town of Wethersfield, in 1674, had given the said Michael, 16 acres of land "at Two-Stone Brook" (now Griswoldville); which, by his will, dated September 22, 1684, he gave to his son the said Jacob. The latter died in 1736, giving his "home lot" to his sons Josiah and Ephraim. Whether it was Josiah or Ephraim who occupied the house, is not certainly known; but it seems to have been built by their father Jacob; and its ownership and occupancy descended to Ozias Griswold, son of the said Josiah. The latter, in 1728, bought from his brother Lieut. Ebenezer, a tract of $21\frac{1}{2}$ acres, with the "new dwelling house thereon." This, I suppose to have been the "Maj. Josiah Griswold house" (later the Broadbent house), demolished in 1875. Lieut. Ebenezer was born in 1702, and *his* house was by all indications, built by Jacob Griswold, his father, and given to him. Jacob's will indicates this.

"This house descended to Thomas Griswold, son of the said Ozias, from the said Thomas to his son Franklin W. Griswold, whose heirs now own the land on which it stood. So that, the *house* was always in the Griswold family, and the land was originally either that of Michael (the first individual owner thereof) or of his son Jacob, as early as 1703, and the first settler at "Two-Stone." So wrote Judge Adams' mother, who was a daughter of this Thomas Griswold and born and reared in this house. .

[But, by far the most conspicuous of Rocky Hill's old houses, was the **ROBBINS HOUSE**, built, in 1767, by Esquire John Robbins, the

wealthiest and most influential man of his family, and of Stepney parish. Built of brick, two stories and an attic in height, with three chimneys, and with solid foundations of dressed stone, and with a kitchen wing; it has a gambrel roof, with dormer windows, and a circular window in each gable above the attic windows—and, altogether, in style, material and construction was, in its day, esteemed as about the finest house in the Colony, as it is to-day, one of the best preserved. It was, at one time, used as a tavern; and the family of Mr. Walter Robbins, its present occupants, still preserve Esquire Robbins' old tavern sign, bearing a painting supposed to represent the Duke of Cambridge on horseback. This old sign, weather-worn and scarred by the alternating rains and sunshine of many years, is perforated by several bullet holes—which, as we have no record of any British invasion of this region, may be supposed to be the result of some jollification of loyal American youth—perhaps at one of the earlier Fourth of July celebrations of the young Republic. The engraving of this house which we here present as a frontispiece to this volume, is furnished by the courtesy of Mr. PHILEMON W. ROBBINS of Hartford.

The style of *furniture* contained in some of these old Wethersfield houses, is illustrated by the pictures herewith given of an ancient *Boardman chest*, and *Goodrich press*, furnished us by courtesy of Mr. Wm. F. J. Boardman of Hartford; and by the engravings of the Rev. JOHN MARSH *furniture*, contributed by Miss ELIZABETH E. DANA, of Cambridge, Mass., and her cousin Miss SUSAN E. DAGGETT, of New Haven, Ct.—*H. R. S.*]

THE OLD ELM.—In appropriate connection with the subject of the Old Houses of Wethersfield, we present the following measurements (taken in 1883) of the OLD WETHERSFIELD ELM, a landmark dear to the heart of every native of the ancient town. This noble tree, supposed to be the largest, and perhaps the oldest of its kind, in the state, stands on the east side of Broad Street Green, in front of the home-lot owned, in 1646, by Samuel Boardman, the Settler; and overshadows the residence of the late James Smith.

Its supposed *age* is 185 years.

Its circumference, at 39 inches from the ground (line resting on ridges) is 22 feet, 5 inches.

Its circumference, at same height from the ground (but with the line following the depressions of the trunk), is 26 feet, 3 inches.

Its circumference, where it enters the ground, is 55 feet, 6 inches.



THE GREAT ELM IN FOLIAGE.



THE GREAT ELM TREE IN WETHERSFIELD,
ON THE EAST SIDE OF BROAD STREET, AND IN FRONT OF THE HOME-LOT OWNED IN 1646 BY
SAMUEL BOREMAN, THE FIRST BOARDMAN SETTLER.

There are 6 large branches—the highest starting from the trunk, at about 10 feet from the ground.

Circumference of the south branch, 16 feet, 8 inches.

Circumference of the east branch, 11 feet, 6 inches.

Circumference of the North branch, 11 feet. .

Circumference of the northwest branch, 10 feet, 3 inches.

Circumference of the west branch, 8 feet, 7 inches.

Diameter spread of branches, north and south, 150 feet.

Diameter spread of branches, east and west, 152 feet.

Circumference spread of branches, 429 feet.

Total height, about 120 feet.

At 25 feet from ground there are 12 large branches.

CHAPTER XVIII.

The West Farms, or Division, of Wethersfield, Prior to 1708—The West (or Second) Society, 1708-1713—Newington Parish, 1721—Newington Township, 1871.

BY ROGER WELLES, ESQ.

NAME.—Newington is first so called in the record of its annual Society meeting held Dec. 15, 1718. In the record of the Society meeting held Dec. 2, 1717, it was called the "West Society of Wethersfield", and in the records of the meetings held April 5, and May 15, 1716, it is denominated "The Westwardmost Society in Wethersfield." In the charter of the parish granted by the General Court in May, 1713, it is called the "West Division" of lands in Wethersfield. In the Act passed in October, 1715, annexing Stanley Quarter to Newington, it is called "Wethersfield West Society". It was legally christened NEWINGTON May 25, 1721, by the General Court. The word "New-ing-ton" is made up of three old English words,— "New", "ing", (meaning Meadow), and "Ton". (meaning Town), and is equivalent to "New-Meadow-Town", or "The-new-Town-in-the-Meadow". This was an appropriate appellation for the new parish, as it was well watered by two streams,— "Piper's Brook", sometimes called "Mill Brook", and "Woods River", the latter, the main stream running from New Britain, and perhaps so called from the continuous woods fringing its banks. It is now also called by the name of its tributary. These streams form two valleys, running north and south, west of Cedar Mountain, with meadows and intervening hills, giving variety and beauty to the landscape, fertile fields for the farmer, and mill-privileges to the manufacturer. There is no record extant *why* Newington was so called Dec. 15, 1718, by Josiah Willard, the Society Clerk, when he made up his record of the Society meeting held at that date. No vote of the Society to that effect is recorded. There was one other Newington only in this country at that date. Bloody Point, New Hampshire, was named Newington May 12, 1714, by Gov. Joseph Dudley. There were several Newingtons in England, however, and very likely some immigrant from one of them suggested the old home name for the nameless parish. It is said that in some deeds about that time it is called "Remington". If so, it is a matter of history that Mr. Jonathan Remington was the



Roger Welles.

tutor, at Harvard College, of Elisha Williams during the years 1708-1711, and that the latter always retained great affection and esteem for him. It is frequently called "Cowplain" in deeds of about that date, doubtless because used as a pasture. There must have been a "plain", destitute of forest, in the present center of the town, for the words "Cowplain" and "Plain" west of the mountain, are of frequent occurrence, in deeds, wills and distributions at that time. Dr. Joab Brace, in his half-century discourse, intimates that it was named "out of regard to the place of Dr. Watt's residence, near London." There is a Newington on the south side of the river Thames, in the County of Surrey, which is a suburb of London; and there is a "Stoke Newington," on the north side of the Thames, which was once a suburb but now is a part of London, and which was for some years the residence of Dr. Watts. As the Society was not named "Stoke Newington", it may be doubted whether regard for him was a factor of any influence in designating a locality so distant from his residence, and at that period in his life. As Ens. Richard Boardman, a prominent member of the Society at that time, was of a family which came from Newington, near Banbury, in Oxford County, England; that fact may furnish a possible solution of the question. But, whatever its origin, the name Newington is pleasant to the ear, and dear to the heart of its sons and daughters. The township lies between the two cities of Hartford and New Britain, and is traversed by a railroad with cars operated both by steam and electricity; and also by a trolley line running through its center between the two cities; and furthermore by the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad; all of which afford unusual facility of ingress and egress.

Land Grants.—Land was plenty and cheap in the days of settlement in the Connecticut valley, and both the General Court and the towns were in the habit of making donations of land with a pretty free hand, until finally "lands undisposed of" no longer existed.

The Beckley Grant.—The first grant of land within the limits of Newington, as afterwards established, was made by the General Court, October 8, 1668, to Serg't. RICHARD BECKLEY, as follows:—

"This Court grants Sarj't. Richd. Beckley, Three Hundred Acres of land lying by Mattabesset River, half a mile wide of both sides the River, and to run up from New Haven path so far till it doth contain three hundred acres. Sarg't. John Nott, and Sarg't. Hugh Wells are desired to lay out the land." (2 *Conn. Col. Rec.* 100.) Both Nott and Wells, as well as Beckley, were freemen as well as selectmen of the town of Wethersfield, according to the official returns made in October, 1669, from which it appears that there were then only fifty-eight freemen in

the town. At a town meeting held Feb. 2, 1670-1, "Mr. Beckley had 20 acres of land granted unto him on the North side of his land formerly granted unto him, at Divident."

At a town meeting held Feb. 23, 1670-, "It was voted and agreed, that Serg't. Richard Beckley should peaceably enjoy his three hundred acres of land granted him by the Court, with an addition of ten acres nigh his house: and the said Serg't. Beckly doth by these presents give up his right in the Mile-in-Breadth granted to the householders (1668—See Chapt. II.); and if any of his aforesaid three hundred acres fall within the foresaid mile, granted to the householders, he the said Richard Beckley doth by these (presents) engage to give up his right therein to the town, and to take so much of the town land elsewhere, near his house. The committee chosen to divide the Mile aforesaid, viz: Mr. Chester, Serg. Nott, Sam'l. Boreman, John Riley, Serg. Hugh Wells, are empowered by the town to lay out the said land to the said Sergt. Beckley, as aforesaid."

This grant is entered in the third volume of *Weth. L. Rec's.* p. 104, under date of Feb'y. 25, 1680, as follows, "Lands belonging unto Sergt. Richard Beckly and unto his heirs and assigns forever, lying in Wethersfield upon Connecticut River, which he obtained by purchase of Turramuggus, Indian, with the consent of the Court and Town of Wethersfield, with an addition of ten acres at the South end of the said purchase and grant, the whole containing three hundred acres and ten be it more or less, whereon his housing and barn standeth. It is bounded on land not laid out, or not granted, South, East and North, and a highway between the West Lots and the aforesaid land West." This tract contained more acres rather than less. Turramuggus was the successor of Sowheag as the sachem of the Wongunk Indians who lived at the "bend" of the Mattabesett (Great Brook). This grant was located at the home of these Indians, and some miles from that part of Wethersfield inhabited by the first settlers. It is probable that this propinquity of residence was to the disadvantage of both Whites and Indians.

In December, 1669, Serg't. Beckley instituted a prosecution against two Indians for stealing from him at his farm at the Mattabesett River, which shows that he had a house and cellar there at that time. The case was tried before the Court of Assistants, (*Rec. Particular Court* III, p. 94), Dec. 24, 1669.

Beckly "complained of Suggusha and Wawwott for pilfering and stealing from him a small kettle and a pair of compasses, a gimlet, a

heading chisel and about six gallons of cider, from him at the farm at Mattabesett River.

"The said Indians, being examined, confessed that they were at the said Beckly's cellar upon the Sabbath Day last was a fortnight, and stole six quarts of cider and a gimlet, but not the compasses, nor chisel, nor kettle.

"Phillip Goffe complained of Suggusha and Wawwott for pilfering and stealing from him a pail and about a barrel of cider, and some apples and about two pounds of tobacco. The said Indians, being examined, confessed they did steal away a pail, and a pail full of cider, and a peek of cider-apples, from him, the said Goffe, and some apples, and about two pounds of tobacco.

"There hath been time spent in looking after these Indians, the constable and five men two days and twelve days, and the constable and two men two days more,—all is eighteen days. The Court, having considered the premises, do adjudge Suggusha and Wawwott to pay to Richd. Beckly three pounds, thirteen shillings and sixpence. And to Phillip Goffe two pounds, twelve shillings, sixpence. And to the constable of Wethersfield, for the charge in seeking them up, two pounds, eight shillings, which is to himself. And to those five that went with him into the woods, three shillings per day, and to the rest two shillings per day.

"And for their offense herein to the Country, they are to be severely corrected, forthwith, by whipping upon the naked body. And when they have paid their fees, and discharged the above said sums, they are to be released from their imprisonment."

The Court apparently exercised both civil and criminal jurisdiction in the same case, giving judgment against the Indians to pay the complainants their damages, as in a civil action; and imposing the penalty of whipping for the offense to the Country, as in a criminal case.

The fact that the offense was committed on the Sabbath, no doubt added greatly, in the minds of the members of the Court, to the sinfulness of the theft. The cider was the chief attraction which tempted these Indians in both cases probably; but the fact that this temptation was brought to their very doors by the white men, was apparently overlooked by the Court. Cider was unknown to the Indians until introduced by the white settlers.

Richard Beckley was chosen one of the constables of Wethersfield at a town meeting held February 18, 1662-3, and was sworn in as such before the Particular Court at Hartford, March 5, 1662-3. It is probable that he came to Wethersfield some time between 1659 and 1662,

as the records of the New Haven Colony show that he was a resident there from 1639 to 1659, and a prominent member of Mr. Davenport's church. He was appointed Sergeant by the General Court of the New Haven Colony May 22, 1648. He was often a juror in the Particular Court. He died Aug. 5, 1690. His land is now in Beckley Quarter, in the town of Berlin, having been annexed to the Great Swamp Society in Farmington in Oct., 1715, and incorporated as a part of Berlin in May, 1785.

PHILIP GOFFE probably lived also in that neighborhood. He was one of the householders who drew lots, Feb. 23, 1670-1, in the "Mile-in-breadth", his lot, No. 60, being separated from Beckley's grant by a highway. In 1669 he was one of the freemen of Wethersfield. Serg't. Beckley was probably the first settler in Newington.

The Mile-in-Breadth.—At a town meeting held Feb'y 2, 1670-1, it was voted:—"That the land next Farmington bounds, one mile in breadth,—that is to say, East and West, shall be divided to all the inhabitants,—that is to say, to householders that live on the West side of Connecticut River in the bounds of Wethersfield, to every man an equal proportion,—that is to say, to one man as many as to another, to be to them and their heirs forever."—(*Weth. Town Votes*, I, 50.)

Thus the ownership of land was recognized by our fathers as the basis of human prosperity, and the "household," or family, as the grand unit in its equal distribution. This tract of land was divided upon the strictly communal principle that each household was entitled to an equal proportion in the land that belonged to all in common. There must have been 76 households in the town at that time, for the tract was divided by lot into 76 shares or "lots." Each lot was 26 rods wide and contained 52 acres. At a town meeting, held February 23, 1670-1, (*W. T. V.*, I, 112), it was voted that no one should sell his lot to any one but an inhabitant of the town, and that the division should begin at the north end. They then drew lots, which fell as follows, to-wit:

Sec. 4.

Lot Owners.

Hartford.

<p>Lots one mile long, 26 rods wide.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John Cherry. 2. Mrs. Holister. 3. Joseph Smith. 4. John Coltman. 5. Mr. Kimberly. 6. Jonat. Smith. 7. Goodwife Stodder. 8. Mrs. Weels. (Wells) 9. Thomas Hurlburt. 10. Isaac Stiles. 11. Thomas Kircum. 12. Mr. Willard. 13. Mr. Bulkly. 14. Willi Moris. 15. Mr. Blackleach. 16. John Curtis. 17. Dan. Rose. 18. Josi. Churchill. 19. Ensign Goodrich. 20. Hen. Buck. 	<i>Highway 12 Rods Wide.</i>	<p><i>Half Mile Common.</i></p> <p>Rev. John Woodbridge's Grant. 200 Acres. Voted April 26, 1686. Laid out March 24, 1727.</p> <hr/> <p>Highway 10 Rods Wide.</p> <hr/> <p>Half Mile Common or The Furlong.</p>
<p>Highway 4 Rods wide.</p>		<p>The Mile-in-Breadth.</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 21. Nat. Graves. 22. John Riley, Sen. 23. Tho. Williams. 24. Amos Williams. 25. Isaac Boreman. 26. Tho. Curtis. 27. Hugh Weels. (Wells) 28. Joseph Wright. 29. Mr. John Chester. 30. Sam. Boreman. 31. Jacob Johnson. 32. Sam. Butteler. 33. Anthony Wright. 34. Thomas Holister. 35. John Saddeler. 36. Josi. Gilbert. 37. Micaell Griswold. (John) 38. Sarg. Beets. 	<i>Highways</i>	<p><i>Meeting House</i> <i>Sawmill Lots, 110 acres.</i> <i>John & Joseph Riley, 40 acres.</i></p> <p>Emanuel Buck, 50 Acres.</p> <p>63 rods long, 54 rods wide, Sam'l. Boreman, 20 acres.</p> <p>Half Mile Common.</p>
<p>Highway 8 rods wide, with end gates.</p>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 39. John Goodrich. 40. Mr. Martin. 		

41. Len. Dix.	<i>Highways.</i>	
42. Mrs. Latimer.		
43. Will. Saylor.		
44. Sigs. Richals.		
45. Sam. Wright.		
46. Capt. Atwood.		
47. John Denning, Sen.		
48. Mr. James Treat.		
49. John Belding.		
50. Sam. Hurlbut.		
51. Eman. Buck.		
52. John Beckly.		
53. Alexander Keny.		
54. Goodwife Wakely.		
55. Edward Benton.		
56. Rob't. Francis.		Half Mile Common.
57. Tho. Couch.		
58. John Edwards.		
59. Sam. Haile, Sen.		
Highway.		
60. Philip Goafe.	<i>Highway.</i>	
61. Nat. Butteler.		
62. Nat. Boman.		
63. Mr. Tallcutt.		
64. Willi. Warnor.		
65. Tho. Wickum.		
66. Capt. Weels. (Welles)		
67. Jonat. Deming.		Serg't. Richard Beckley's Grant.
68. John Bromson.		310 acres.
69. Serg. Kilburn.		Granted by the General Court.
70. Serg. Deming.		Oct. 8, 1668.
71. John Haile.		Confirmed by the Town.
72. Tho. Wright.		Feb'y. 23, 1670/1.
73. Tho. Standish.		Half a Mile Wide.
74. Serg. Nott.		Annexed, Oct., 1715.
75. John Robins.		to
76. Benj. Crane.		The Great Swamp Society.
(Land not divided.)		
One Mile Wide.		Half a Mile Wide.

Middletown.

[The following remarks are added from the Manuscript of Judge ADAMS.—II. R. S.]

"In addition to the seventy-six 'Householders' living west of Conn. River, in Wethersfield, and named in the foregoing list—one more, Serg. Richard Beckley, the pioneer of 'Beckley Quarter,' (who had

been already provided for) should be added; making seventy-seven, in all. In 1672, the following-named persons were treated as West-of-the-River householders, and, (as there were no more of the 52-acre lots remaining) were each given 80 acres of land at 'Nayaug,' South Glastonbury:

Mr. Richard Treat	Son of Richard, the Settler.
Mr. John Hollister	Son of John, the Settler, deceased.
Richard Smith	Son of Richard, the Settler(?).
Thomas Edwards	Son of John, Settler.
John Wadhams	The Settler; had a son John.
Sam. Hale, Jun.	Removed to Glastonbury.
Caleb Benjamin	Removed to South Glastonbury.
Thomas Loveland	Son of 'Widow Lovenam' Wethersfield, 1649(?).

"Of these, Mr. Treat had never lived east of the River, although he had a 'farm' at Nayaug. Wadhams was never a resident east of the River; having several homesteads in Wethersfield village, from 1654 to 1676, the date of his last purchase there. Richard Smith was living east of the River; either on land given to him by James Boswell, in 1660, or on land bought of James Wright (originally John Reynolds') in 1664. Lieut. John Hollister was, and had been for some years—living upon his homestead, at Nayaug. Thomas Edwards had been living, since about 1648, at Hockanum, east of the River; originally as a tenant of Samuel Wyllys. Sam. Hale, Jun., had been given 58 acres of land, in 1670, (by his father-in-law, Thomas Edwards) at 'Beaver Holes,' in 'Nabocke,' near Salmon Brook; and therefore was probably living east of the River. Caleb Benjamin and Thomas Loveland were, almost certainly, living east of the River; although *Chapin* says that Benjamin never lived on that side.

"It thus seems that the Town so far relented, as to the strict limitations of the vote making the allotment, as to permit, probably *all* householders, whether on the east or west side of the River, to share in the same. So that, of the eight names added in 1672, but two (Richard Treat and John Wadhams) are to be included in the West-of-the-River householders: making seventy-nine in all (counting Richard Beckley as one), as the number of householders living west of the River in 1671. Six more, at least, were living on the *east* side; and one, James Wright, lived on the 'Island.' He was allowed, as late as 1713, to be classed as a west-side householder of 1671.

"In copying the foregoing list, I have not followed the order in which the names were drawn, by lot, and set down in the original.

The first name *drawn*, was that of Thomas Kircum [Kirkham], whose number was eleven. The next, was Tho. Wickum [Wickham]; and so on. Also, I have not, in making the numerical arrangement, in all instances followed the spelling of the original. And I have supplied the *full* name, in cases where only the surname was given.

"In the survey and perambulation of April, 1707, the west line of Wethersfield was found to be six miles and ninety-two rods in length. The southwestern bound-mark, 'a white oak tree, with a heap of stones about it,' was 174 rods east of 'Capt. Thomas Hart's new house.' The same tree had been adopted in Dec., 1671; and was then stated to be 'about a mile to the south of Mattabeset River.' When Berlin was made a township, in 1785, a large section was taken from the southwest corner of Wethersfield. The present (1892) town hall of Berlin (originally a meeting house) has its north half on the north side of the *old* south line of Wethersfield.

"*'Mile-in-Breadth,'* owing to changes in the names of localities in its vicinity, is now bounded: northerly, by West Hartford; easterly, by other lands in Newington, in part, and partly by Beckley Quarter, in Berlin; southerly, by Beckley Quarter, and other land in Berlin; westerly, by Berlin, New Britain and Farmington. It includes lands formerly in Stanley Quarter, Great Swamp and Kensington parishes; as well as Newington parish, in part. And it is traversed by Pipers' River, besides being closely bordered by the Mattebeset, at its southern extremity.

"It is not probable that any white person occupied any portion of the *Mile-in-Breadth*, until quite a number of years later than 1671. And it is not known that any of the distributees of that year *ever* occupied (*i. e.*, lived upon) any part of it. Nearly every one was in possession of a homestead in Wethersfield proper; whilst a very few were living on the east side of the River, or in the Rocky Hill section of the township.

"The earliest settlers in the 'West Division' (now Newington), did not settle upon the *Mile-in-Breadth*. With the exception of Serg. Richard Beckley, and his three sons, part of whose domain may have extended a little into *Mile-in-Breadth*, they occupied lots near the sawmill, in Pipe-stave Swamp; the latter being within the limits of Cow Plain, or the Half-Mile Common. In fact, the tier of lots between Cow Plain and Cedar mountain (laid out in 1694), was settled upon before the *Mile-in-Breadth* was; with the exception of the Beckley section, and, possibly, JOHN SLEAD (or Slade), who bought the Jonathan Riley lot, in *Mile-in-Breadth*, in 1681. The ANDRUSES (or An-

draws) and HUNNS, pioneer settlers, did not settle upon Mile-in-Breadth, but in Cow Plain.

"The distribution of 1671 was undoubtedly illegal. Even if the Town (instead of the 'Proprietors') had the right to make *any* distribution, it had not the right to limit the sharers to 'householders,' whether dwelling on the west, or the east side, of the River. Nor was one person entitled to receive just the same number of acres as every other person. The distribution should have been among the representatives of the original Proprietors (purchasers) of the whole plantations, in proportion to their respective rights and interests therein."—S. W. A.]

Highway in the Mile-in-Breadth.—At the same Town-meeting, Feb. 23, 1670-1, at which these lots were divided, it was voted that a highway should be made across the middle of the Mile-in-Breadth from east to west, eight rods wide, "with sufficient gates at each end."—(1 *Weth. Town Votes*, 99.)

On Nov. 19, 1716, by vote of the town, highways were laid out in that division as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of the division next Middletown, thence running east about half a mile, thence northwardly to the north side of Samuel Benton's lot, ten rods wide; thence east across the division to the Commons, five rods wide, taken out of the north side of his lot; thence from this cross road north to the north side of Sergt. Beekley's farm, four rods wide; thence north through the middle of the fifty-acre lots, ten rods wide, to the north side of James Francis' lot (called "Ten-Rod" highway to this day); thence west to the Farmington line, and east to the Commons, four rods wide, across the division, two rods being taken from the north side of said Francis' lot, and two rods from Isaac Buck's lot next adjoining on the north, and thence from the east end of said cross road north along the east fronts of the fifty-acre lots to the Hartford line.¹—(1 *Town Votes*, 162 b.)

Sawmill Lots.—At a Town Meeting, held October 25, 1677, (1 *Town Votes*, 77):

"There was granted liberty to EMAN'L BUCK, JOHN RILY, SAM'L BOWMAN and JOSEPH RILY to build a sawmill with sufficient ponding, and also twenty acres of land to each of them forever, and to be about Pipe-stave Swamp; *always provided* the said parties make no sale of boards or timber to any other town without the consent of Wethersfield

¹ The highways here described are next the City of New Britain, and an important part of the town and growing fast.

and townsmen; and to sell boards at home at five shillings per hundred, and slit-work answerable by the rule of proportion; and at the mill at four shillings per hundred, boards and slit-work answerable; and at the end of twelve years the sawmill to cease, if the town see cause, sawing of any timber that groweth on the Common; and the mill to be up and fit to work at or before the last of September next insuing the date hereof. And Hugh Welles, Sarg't, John Nott, Sarg't, John Deming, and Josec. Edwards are chosen as a committee to lay out the above mentioned land."

On March 25, 1680, the town granted to Emanuel Buck thirty acres of land more "next his land at the sawmill, in exchange for half an acre near his house for a highway."—(*I Weth. Town Votes*, 83.) These lands were located together in one section of one hundred and ten acres. They extended from the south side of the present pound to the south side of the residence of the late Henry M. Robbins.

In *Weth. Land Records*, II, p. 169½, under date of March 29, 1684, is this entry:

"Lands belonging unto Sam'l Boreman, Eman'll Buck, John Rily and Joseph Rily, which was granted unto them by the town, viz.: Twenty acres apiece upon the account that they are to build a sawmill, and there is also granted to the said Eman'l Buck thirty acres in consideration of a highway, which the said Buck granted to the town out of his home lot on the North side, so that Sam'l Boreman hath twenty acres, Eman'l Buck fifty acres, John Rily hath twenty acres and Joseph Rily hath twenty acres, which is in all, as it now lyeth together, one hundred and ten acres; and is all of it bounded on the sawmill pond and land left for a highway, between the West Lots and the Furlong, West, and on the Common South, East and North. Four score acres of this land was granted by the town in October 25, 1677, and thirty acres was granted to Eman'l Buck by the town in consideration of the aforesaid highway."

John and Joseph Rily were brothers and located their forty acres on the north side of this tract, Eman'l Buck's lot adjoined them on the south, and Sam'l Boreman's lot on the extreme south completed the tract. According to the terms of the grant the sawmill was "to be up and fit to work," by Sept. 30, 1678. It was the first sawmill in the Town of Wethersfield. Pipe-stave Swamp "about" which the sawmill lots were to be located, was situated east and south of the mill pond, and was so called because pipe-staves had for years been rived from the oak trees that abounded in the low and swampy ground in that vicinity. Pipe-staves were required to be 4 feet, 4 inches long,

4 inches wide, and half an inch at least in thickness, and were inspected by a town inspector. The staves and heads were put into bundles or "shooks," and shipped to the West Indies and other foreign ports, and made into pipes and casks for rum, molasses, sugar, etc. They were exported till late in the 18th century. The road that led from Wethersfield to this sawmill was called "Sawmill Path." The men who rived out the pipe-staves were designated as "Pipers," and the brook on which the sawmill was located was named after them "Pipers' Brook." This brook runs northerly into West Hartford, where it empties into Wood River, formerly so called, which has its source in New Britain.

Rev. Mr. Woodbridge's Grant.—The Rev. John Woodbridge was settled at Wethersfield as pastor of the Congregational Church, in 1679. He died in 1691. At a Town Meeting, held December 28, 1685, "Mr. Woodbridge had a grant of two hundred acres of land; and Serg't Jon. Robbins, Em'll. Buck, and Benj. Churchell were appointed a committee to make search in Wethersfield common lands to find a convenient place, both for suiting Mr. Woodbridge and where the town can best spare it; and make return thereof to the town; that the said committee upon the approbation of the said town may lay it out for Mr. Woodbridge."—(*I Weth. Town Votes*, 97, b.) At a Town Meeting held April 20, 1686, it was voted that the land be bounded on the 12 rod highway west, "and on the Hartford line north, and on the commons still east and south, and is to be eight score rods wide on Hartford line, that is east and west, and so far southward as may make up the said two hundred acres. And the former committee who were appointed to view the said land are now appointed to lay out the said land according to this vote, and to record the same to the said Jno. Woodbridge, and to his heirs and assigns forever."

While the above vote located the grant, the committee failed to lay it out and record it, as instructed. On December 12, 1726, a new committee were appointed to discharge this duty, which on March 24th, 1726-7, measured the land 160 rods on the Hartford line east from the 12 rod highway, and south 210 rods, making 210 acres. The extra 10 rods on the south side being probably intended for a highway.

The Second General Division.—A second general division of lands in Newington by the town [not the Proprietors] was voted February 23, 1693-4. The division was to be "unto the inhabitants of this town according to the list of their estates, taken and approved in Court, October, 1693, "and with the usual provisions of reservation of land for purposes of highways, watering and feeding places (commons) for

cattle, and with the usual clause of forfeiture of allotment, if the land should be sold to any non-inhabitant of the town." This division, "according to the list," was probably adopted because since the first division of the "Mile-in-Breadth," the town had bought of the Indians the whole territory embraced within its limits, and had paid for the purchase by a special tax laid on the list of estates; so that the division was made upon the same terms as the payment. The General Court had, at a session held May 8, 1690, granted that so much of the town as lay east of the Great River should be a town by itself, and on June 22, 1692, had named the new town "Glassenbury." This accounts for the fact that the whole town were to share in the present division, while only that part west of the river shared in the division of 1671. The two divisions harmonize because the whole town was now west of the river. At a town meeting held October 15, 1694, a committee was chosen to view the commons and make the divisions, consisting of Mr. James Treat, Capt. Robt. Weels (Welles), Lieut. Wm. Warner, Sergt. Jno. Welles, John Stadart (Stoddard), Sergt. John Curtis and John Chester, Jr. At a Town Meeting held April 15, 1695, the committee reported in favor of five different tiers of lots.—(*I Town Votes*, 120.)

The boundaries of this second division was further confirmed by action of the Town, at its meetings of 4 March, 1728, and December 9, 1729.—See *Weth. Town Votes*, II, 51-54, 65-66. See *Appendix VIII*.

The Parish of Newington Established.—By the year 1708, the inhabitants of the West Division had so increased that they petitioned the town for distinct parish privileges. And the town, by vote of 20 December, 1708, referred the matter to Mr. Stephen Mix, Lieut. James Treat, Capt. Joshua Robbins and John Chester as a committee to consider and report upon.

At a Town Meeting, held December 8, 1709, it was finally voted: "That the said petitioners, and any that shall inhabit within half a mile of any of their houses, shall have liberty of assembling separately from the rest of the town, and jointly and publicly to gather in the worship of God amongst themselves for four months of the year yearly—that is to say, December, January, February and March, until the lands about them being more peopled, and themselves and their labors blest to such a sufficiency as that they shall be able comfortably, and without distraction, decently and honorably to set up and maintain the ministry and ordinances amongst themselves; and that they shall be released from one-third part of the charge that shall yearly arise for the maintaining the ministry in the town where it now is."

This arrangement seems not to have been entirely satisfactory for at the expiration of two years the following petition was presented to a Town Meeting, held December 24, 1712, in these words: "The good Providence of God having cast our lot here in this place; and we being willing for ourselves and of ours to serve the Lord God of our fathers, and finding it very difficult in the best season of the year, with our families, to attend the public worship of God at Wethersfield, and at many seasons very difficult; and being increased to such a number at present that we may in a tolerable manner be capable to maintain a minister amongst us, with the ordinances of the Gospel, do earnestly entreat of the said town that they would compassionate us under our difficulties (so far as to grant), that we may be a distinct parish for the carrying on the worship of God amongst us. And that the town would please to set out our parish bounds as may include the West Divisions of lands in Wethersfield. That all persons inhabiting within the said bounds, with the lands that are therein improved, may be obliged to pay their proportion to all charges for the setting up and maintaining the worship of God amongst us. And herein you, the said town, would be pleased to gratify our desire and oblige our persons to thankfulness to you. This is the earnest desire of us the subscribers and proprietors as above."

"Ezekiel Buck,¹ Nathaniel Churchel,² Abraham Woren,³ Jonathan Buck,⁴ Richard Boardman, Enoch Buck,⁵ Ephraim Whaples, John Whaples, Joseph Andrus,⁶ Ephraim Andrus,⁷ Simon Willard,⁸ Benjamin Andrus,⁹ John Stoddard,¹⁰ Joseph Camp,¹¹ John Camp,¹² Samuel Hun,¹³ Nathaniel Hun,¹⁴ Eliphilit Whittlese,¹⁵ Jonathan Wright,¹⁶

¹ Son of Ezekiel and gd-s. of Emanuel Buck, the Settler; rem. to Litchfield, where he was a first settler; thence to Durham.

² Son of Joseph, gd-s. of Josiah Churchill, the Settler.

³ Woren (Warren), perhaps s. of Wm. of Hartford.

⁴ Son of Emanuel and Sarah Buck.

⁵ Prob. s. of Enoch Buck, the Settler.

⁶ Son of John Andrus, of Far.; he also bo't in 1684, Lot 94 (16 acr.) of John and Joseph Riley; also, 1695, Lot 95 (12 acr.), of Jona. Deming.

⁷ Son of above Joseph Andrus, leased land, 1711, to Justus Francis, for 999 yrs.

⁸ Son of Josiah Willard, the Settler; and schoolmaster at Wethersfield.

⁹ Son of Joseph Andrus, of Newington.

¹⁰ Son of John Stoddard, the Settler.

¹¹ Son of John Camp, of Hartford.

¹² Son of John Camp of Hartford; his dau. Hannah m. Amasa Adams.

¹³ Son of George Hun (?). Bo't Lot No. 91, orig. Lazarus Hollister's.

¹⁴ Son of George Hun (?).

¹⁵ Son of John, of Saybrook.

¹⁶ Son of Joseph (?), who had Lot 28 in Mile-in-Breadth and Lot 56 in div. of 1694.

Steven Buck,¹⁷ John Keley,¹⁸ Steven Keley,¹⁹ Daniel Andrus,²⁰ Jonathan Hurlbut,²¹ Jonathan Buck,²² Thomas Molton,²³ Richard Beckly,²⁴ John Deming,²⁵ Ephraim Deming,²⁶ Jabez Whittlesey,²⁷ Benjamin Beckly.²⁸ This petition was granted at a meeting, December 24th, 1712.

"And it was also by vote agreed and consented to. That the aforesaid petitioners should be discharged from paying their part of their minister's rate to the Town of Wethersfield, when once they have attained to those abilities that they can maintain the worship of God among themselves.

"It was at the same meeting voted and agreed that Capt. Joshua Robbins, Lient. Benjamin Churchel, Mr. Stillman, Nathaniel Stodder and Jacob Griswold, Sen., shall be a committee to look out a convenient place on the commons between the two last divisions, whereon the West Farmers shall erect their meeting-house for the carrying on the worship of God amongst them. And to make return thereof to the next town meeting."

This vote plainly imported a grant of the site that should be selected by the committee and actually appropriated. The Towns of the State had the power, "delegated by the supreme legislative power of the State from its earliest organization," to make such grants of land.

At a Town Meeting held March 23, 1712-13, they reported their choice of a site, a "piece of cleared land adjacent to the house of Joseph Hurlbut and John Griswold, westerly, about the middle of said land, on the west side, of a small black oak tree."

This site, though accepted by the meeting, was never actually appropriated, so that the grant never took effect.

¹⁷ Perhaps son of Henry Buck, the Settler.

¹⁸ Son of Stephen Keley, of Hartford(?).

¹⁹ Son of Stephen Keley, of Hartford.

²⁰ Son of Daniel Andrus of Far.; res. at lower end of West Division, at place later Philo Webster's.

²¹ Son of Joseph and gd-s. of Thomas Hurlbut, the Settler(?).

²² Son of Samuel and Sarah Hurlbut.

²³ (Morton) bo't homestead at Rocky Hill, 1712; m. Comfort, wid. of Nath'l Beckly and dau. of Jona. Deming.



²⁴ Son of Sgt. Richard Beckly, the Settler.

²⁵ Son of Ebenezer, gd-s. of John Deming, the Settler.

²⁶ Son of Ebenezer Deming, Sen.

²⁷ Son of John Wittlesey, of Saybrook.

²⁸ Son of Sgt. Rich Beckly, the Settler.

Farmington 1713.	North Town Line.		Hartford		North Town Line.	
	Mile-in-Breadth. Feb. 23, 1670-71. 76 Lots of 52 acres each. One mile long, 26 rods wide.	Rev. John Woodbridge's Grant. 210 Acres Dec. 28 1653.	Highway	Third Tier. (Short Lots.) Feb. 23, 1693-4. Lots 79-57.		
				Fourth Tier. (East Tier) Feb. 23, 1693-4 Lots 88-126.	Mountain Tier. 1752.	
	Highway 4 rods wide.					Highway. Newington Town Line, 1871. Newington Town Line, 1713. Town Line.
	West Town Line.	Williams Lot x Acres.  church	Sawmill Lots 110 Acres 1677.	Highway.	Highway.	
	Middle Highway, 8 rods wide.	 Backus Lot 5 ac	Parsonage Lots. 50 Acres. Dec. 7, 1713.	Highway.	Newington Town Line, 1713.	
	Highway, 12 rods wide.	Half-mile Common.	Annexed to Worthington May 12, 1794. Town Line	Highway.	Town Line	
Annexed to Society of Worthington. May 22, 1794. Town Line.		Highway. 1843. Annexed to Rocky Hill. Fifth Tier. Feb. 23, 1793-4. Lots 127-165.				
Highway.					Town Line	
Highway, 10 rods wide.						
17 Lots. Annexed to the Great Swamp Society Oct. 1715. Annexed to Berlin. May, 1785.	Serg't Rich'd Beckley's Grant. 310 Acres. Oct. 8, 1668. Annexed to Great Swamp Society. Oct. 1715. and to town of Berlin May, 1785.	Beckley School Dist. Oct., 1757.	1843. Annexed to Rocky Hill, Second Tier. Feb. 23, 1793-4. Lots 1-38.			
			Highway, 20 rods wide.			
			1843. Annexed to Rocky Hill, First Tier. Feb. 23, 1793-4. Lots 1-38.			

Middletown, 1713.

Rough Outline of The West Divisions of Land in Newington.

This black oak tree probably stood a little north of where the parsonage lot was afterwards located, which site was south of the residence of the late Henry M. Robbins, on the hill afterwards granted to the Rev. Simon Backus, for his house lot.¹ This site was afterwards abandoned when Beckley Quarter was annexed to the Great Swamp Society, and the site north of Joseph Andrus was substituted in place of it, Stanley Quarter having made this change of site one of the conditions of its annexation.

The grant of the town had to be confirmed by the General Assembly to enable the new Parish to become a corporate body, with power to lay and levy taxes within their limits, as they had to build a meeting house and settle a minister. At the next session of the Assembly in May, 1713, a petition was presented to that body by Jabez Whittlesey and John Denning, as a committee, in the name and behalf of the West proprietors, praying that they might be "such a distinct society for the end aforesaid." It was opposed by certain householders in Beckley Quarter, who presented to the General Assembly a written declaration, date May 15, 1713, signed by Benjamin Beckly, and others, all of whom had signed the petition to the Town of Wethersfield for the formation of the "West Divisions" into a new parish. Then followed a Beckley Argument and Remonstrance, together with a Counter-Argument from their opponents, all interesting, as an exhibition of human nature, but too long for our pages.

These documents show that the contest was real and persistent, but the Beckleys lost their case. The General Court granted the petition for a new Society, and granted an act of incorporation. (*Col. Rec.*, III, 374) which, however, did not locate the site of the meeting house. This silence means, perhaps, that the location made by the town should stand open for future determination.

Grant of Parsonage Land.—At the next town meeting after the incorporation of the new society, held Dec. 7, 1713, the West inhabitants presented a petition for a grant of parsonage land.

The town responded to this appeal by appointing Capt. Robins, Lieut. Churchel, Lieut. Belding, and Joshua Robins, 2d, a committee to lay out fifty acres of land at the West Division "to be for an accommoda-

¹In a manuscript history of Wethersfield written by Hezekiah Belden, Esq., (born Feb. 17, 1778), a son of Rev. Joshua Belden, he thus alludes to this "black oak tree:" "The writer well remembers this tree. Its shade in his childhood, was the favorite resort of those of his age, and witnessed many of their light-hearted gambols. Its trunk was then in a state of decay, although its top was green and spreading. He grieved when the axe was laid at its roots."

tion of the ministry there." This they did on the commons south of the Sawmill lots, and adjoining the south side of the site chosen by the committee of the town for the first meeting house. It was appropriate for the parsonage lot and the meeting house to be located near each other. The town had to locate both grants on land not already granted to others; this excluded the Sawmill lots and other grants made before that time. The meeting house was directed to be located upon a "convenient place on the commons between the two last divisions."

This parsonage lot continued in the ownership of the Newington Society until March 23, 1774, when the Society voted to lease it for 999 years to such persons as chose to take it upon the conditions required. Capt. Martin Kellogg, Capt. Charles Churchill, and Mr. John Lusk were appointed a committee to make the leases. The avails were to be invested, and the annual interest to be used for the payment of the minister's salary, "and to and for no other use or purpose whatsoever." This fund, in 1830, amounted to \$1,718.86. (*Annals*, p. 138.) On April 6, 1774, Mr. Belden released to the Society all his claim to the land, and in consideration thereof the Society voted, on the same date, to give him annually seventeen pounds "during his continuance in the ministry in this place."

Beckley Quarter and Stanley Quarter Exchanged.—The new ecclesiastical society in the "West Division" was now legally incorporated, with the full powers of a parish, being the *Second Society in Wethersfield*. Its geographical limits formed a parallelogram, extending about seven miles in length from Hartford to Middletown, and two miles and 50 rods in width, between Farmington on the West and Cedar Mountain on the East, the latter making a natural boundary between the two societies of Wethersfield. It contained two settlements, one comprising 23 families located North of the center, the other comprising some eight or ten families at Beckley Quarter. The latter, dissatisfied with their enforced alliance with the "Upper Inhabitants," soon began an attempt to gain their cherished desire of union with the Great Swamp Society, where they attended worship. After two years of effort they succeeded in negotiating their annexation to the Great Swamp Society, and the annexation of Stanley Quarter to the West Society of Wethersfield, upon certain conditions; such as the giving of a bond of £50 to the new Society by the Beckleys; the payment of their proportion of the building of a new meeting house, and the removal of the site of the new meeting house farther north to accommodate the inhabitants of Stanley Quarter. By making these concessions the Beckleys won over to their side a majority of the "Upper inhabitants". At a meeting of the new Society,

April 4, 1715, a committee was appointed who favored the exchange, consisting of Benjamin Beekley and Jonathan Hurlbut from Beekley Quarter, and John Stoddor and Nathaniel Churchel from the "upper Houses." To this end the Committee first obtained the written consent of the Stanley Quarter proprietors.

The next step was to obtain the formal consent of the First Society of Farmington to the proposed plan of double annexation. A meeting of the society was held for the purpose on April 11, 1715, and their request received from the Farmington Society a favorable response; so that all which was now needed, was the consent of the General Assembly, to the project. A petition to that body was signed by Benjamin Beekley, Richard Beekley, Stephen Kelsey, Daniel Andrus, John Kellsy, Jonathan Hurlbut, John Andrus, Samuel Hun, Simon Willard, Heze. Deming, John Camp, John Stoddor, Nathaniel Churchel, Mindwell Whaples, James Francis, Benjamin Andrus, *Thomas Francis*, Josiah Willard, Samuel Churchel, Thomas Morton, Abigail Camp, *Nathaniel Stoddor*, *Jonathan Stoddor*, *Isaac Buck*, Joseph Andrus."

Of these 25 petitioners, 8 were from Beekley Quarter, and 17 from the more northern inhabitants out of 23 in all. These names in italics have a pen mark drawn through them. Mindwell Whaples was the widow of Ephraim Whaples, who died in 1713. Abigail Camp was the widow of Joseph Camp, Sen. Although this petition was signed by a majority of the householders of the West Society, there was a large number of persons in the First Society of Wethersfield and some in the West Society who did not approve of the proposed exchange, and who signed a remonstrance, which was laid before the Assembly.

Remonstrance.—"We, the subscribers, proprietors, or intrusted with the rights of minors, in the Western Tract of Weathersfield, allowed for a distinct parish or Ecclesiastical Society, expressive of our dissent from the project of uniting of a part of said Tract to Farmington South Society, and of Farmington to the Northward part of our Society, as subversive to the said Society, have hereto subjoined our names. Stephen Micks, Elisha Williams, James Treat, Thomas Wells, Joshua Robbins, Joshua Robbins, 2d., Josiah Deming, Ebenezer Dickinson, Jonathan Belding, Daniel Warner, Joseph Hurlbutt, Michael Griswold, David Wright, Samuel Wright, Jonathan Goodrich, Jacob Griswold, Joseph Killburn, John Rose, Robert Welles, Ebenezer Deming, Gideon Welles, Benjamin Belding, Thomas Wright, Elizabeth Curtis, Wid. Samuel Benton, Nathaniel Nott, Daniel Bordman, Richard Robbins, Hannah Chester, Mary Chester, Ephraim Goodrich, Sarah Kilborn, Sarah Chester, Mercy Chester, William Warner, Elizabeth Warner, Wid.

Joseph Wells, Josiah Belding, Samuel Dix, Samuel Bird, Jun., Abigail Lattimore, Thomas Standish, John Deming, Stephen Lusk, John Griswold, Abraham Woren, Ephraim Deming, Ezekiel Crab, (an inhabitant, not proprietor), Richard Boardman, Jonathan Buck, Jabez Whittelsey, Eliphalet Whittelsey, Jonathan Wright."

These names represented many of the most prominent families in Wethersfield. Rev. Stephen Mix was pastor of the church from 1693 to 1738, and the Remonstrance is in his handwriting, and Elisha Williams was afterwards the first pastor of the Newington church. But the Beckleys, to encourage the exchange, executed a bond that they would help build the first meeting house of the West Society, and pay fifty pounds in four yearly instalments, etc., provided the Gen. Assembly would annex them to the Great Swamp Society.

The Assembly appointed a Special Committee, on this dispute before which Committee the battle was fought out by written documents presented by each side; the Beckley arguments were more complimentary to the Committee than to the "Upper Inhabitants". That of the West Society was confined to the real points at issue: but both are too long to be here quoted entire. The Committee's report to the Assembly resulted in a ratification of the proposed exchange, to the effect that "that part, formerly of Weathersfield West Society, from the North side of Hurlbut's lot and the North side of Stephen and John Kelsey's lands to Middletown bounds, including the Beckley's land, should be annexed to the Great Swamp Society, and obliged to pay all ministerial or parish charges with the Great Swamp people, to that Society: *Provided*, That the said people of that part of the West Society of Weathersfield aforementioned, shall help and do their proportionable parts with the rest of Weathersfield West Society, in the finishing the meeting house in said West Society, and pay to the said West Society in Weathersfield, £50 according to their agreement: *And be it further enacted*, etc., That the lots in Farmington butting upon Weathersfield West Society or Township, that is to say, all the land in the several lots in Farmington bounds from the South side of John Norton's lot on Wolf plain to the North side of the bounds of the Great Swamp, shall be and are hereby annexed to the West Society in Weathersfield, and shall pay in proportion with the said West Society in Weathersfield, in all ministerial or parish charges." (*Col. Rec.* V. 532)

This act established the West Society in more compact form geographically, than when first chartered, and enabled it to build a meeting house, organize a church, and settle a minister. These were all accomplished within the next ten years, and the society entered upon a

career more favorable to its harmony and prosperity. The West Society lost the Beckley farm which extended nearly a mile and a half North of the Middletown line, and also a contiguous part of the Mile-in-Breadth, or seventeen of the lots at the South end of that division, or about 1200 acres in all. Stephen and John Kelsey's lot was formerly owned by Phillip Goffe, being lot No. 60 in the West Division, drawn by him. His son Jacob sold January 3, 1797-8 the north part of said lot to Stephen Kelsey, and the latter sold June 18, 1707, the East end of his lot to John Kelsey. From the Middletown line to the North side of this lot was about four hundred and fifty rods, or nearly a mile and a half in round numbers. Each lot of the West Division was 26 rods wide, and there was a small tract of a few acres south of lot 76, which had not been divided, but was still common. The lots usually overran the surveys, as was often proved by subsequent measurements. The Beckley farm would seem to have largely overrun 310 acres, if its width was 160 rods, but as there was a highway on the East and West sides of this farm, which perhaps came out of it, the discrepancy may not have been very great.

The First Settlers.—The tradition is that five persons, three by name of *Andrus*, and the others SLEAD and HUNN, were the first settlers of Newington, within its present boundaries. The records show that JOSEPH ANDRUS drew lot 145, in the fifth tier, in the division of 1693, so that he settled in the town and had property in the list prior to that date. He came from Farmington, where he was born May 26, 1651, the son of John Andrus, one of the first settlers of that town. He married in 1677, and died April 27, 1706.

As Joseph Andrus was not one of those who drew lots in the division of 1671, he could not then have been an inhabitant of the town. He bought March 31, 1684, of John and Joseph Riley, 18 acres of their North Saw Mill lot. The town voted, Sept. 11, 1684, "That Joseph Andrus shall have a small piece of land near his land by the saw mill, convenient to build a house and barn on." (1 *Town Votes*, 94.) This piece of land was probably at the East end of the sawmill lot, whereon he built his house, (south of the present pound) which is said to have been fortified, to which the first settlers retired with their families every night, and slept on their arms. But they cultivated friendly relations with the Indians in the neighborhood, and were never attacked. It is said that a band of Indians had a camping place immediately West of the mill pond, not a half-mile away from the house of Andrus, where they could fish as well as hunt. Joseph Andrus was one of the soldiers from Farmington in "King Phillip's War."

Isaac Buck	Half mile Common		Dr. Joseph Andrus	
Highway				
James Frances	Rev. Elisha Williams 8 acres	Church Cemetery <input type="checkbox"/> Ebenezer Kilbourn pound <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Whaples Ephraim Whaples Ebenezer Kilbourn	
Mile-in-breadth	Saw mill Lots. 1733 Caleb Andrus		Highway	
	John Whaples			
	Enoch Buck			
	Joseph Hurlbut	Richard Boardman		
	East Tier			
Highway	30 rods Rev. Simon Backus Lot 5 acres Laid out Mch. 21, 1732-3	Highway Ch. 2 wide 3 Ch.	Highway	
	24 rods Rev. Simon Backus Lot 5 acres Laid out Mch. 21, 1732-3	33 1-2 rods Rev. Simon Backus Lot 5 acres Laid out Mch. 21, 1732-3 33 rods	David Wright	
	Highway	Highway	Josiah Deming	
	120 Rods Parsonage Lot 50 acres Laid out March 21, 1732-3	19 Chains 75 Links	Jacob Griswold	
	33 Chains 25 Links	Half mile Common	Capt Joshua Robbins	

The two other settlers by the name of Andrus, were nephews of Joseph, and settled in the South part of the parish. They were DANIEL and JOHN, brothers, sons of Daniel Andrus of Farmington, who was a brother of Joseph Andrus. In a petition dated October 16, 1705, to the Assembly for the incorporation of the Great Swamp Society, appears the name of DANIEL ANDRUS, Jun. His name also appears in the petition presented to the Town Meeting held Dec. 24, 1712, for the grant that the West Divisions might be a parish, and he identified himself with the Beckleys in their subsequent controversies. He was born March 9, 1672, and married Mabel Goffe of Wethersfield, Oct. 30, 1707, and built his house where the house of the late Philo Webster stands, on the summit of the hill East of the old turnpike. He joined the Great Swamp Church in 1718, and attended church at their meeting house. He died Aug. 21, 1748.

JOHN ANDRUS was born June 10, 1680, and married June 26, 1712, Mary Goffe, sister to Daniel's wife. He located in the south part of the parish, and attended church at the "Great Swamp." He signed the petition for the annexation of Beckley quarter to the Great Swamp Society, and also, with his brother, the bond, for the payment of £50 to build the meeting house in the West Society, dated May 13, 1715. He died June 16, 1740.

JOHN SLEAD or Sled, bought the 52 acre lot No. 22 in the Division of 1671, on Dec. 16, 1681, and half of lot No. 23, Nov. 10, 1694. He is said to have built his house near the site of the old Academy building. His name appears in the town, but not in the Society records. It appears that on April 10, 1673, John Sled and his wife were refused a residence in Haddam, "because they were not persons qualified according to law." He was probably the first of the five settlers above mentioned to locate in Newington. He must have left the parish about 1700 for Middletown, according to its records.¹

¹ On Feb. 3, 1699-1700, JOHN SLEAD, of Wethersfield, bought of Isaac Lane of Middletown for the consideration of Forty Pounds, thirty-four acres of upland on the east side of the Connecticut River, also ten acres of meadow on the same side of the river.—(*Midd. L. Recs.*, Vol. 2, p. 50.)

John Slead of Middletown conveyed Feb. 9, 1718-19, to his son Jonathan of the same town the above described lands, with the buldings thereon, and his cattle and tools of husbandry, reserving to himself the life use thereof, and reserving to his son-in-law, Sharngan Barnes, the use of two acres of the homelot, which Jonathan was to convey to John's grandchildren, Abigail and Phebe Barnes, when they should be eighteen years old. He also reserved his "hunting gun" for his grandson, John Slead, "when of age to make good use of it." (*Id.* Vol. 4, p. 103.) He died, Oct. 11, 1719, aged 76, according to his grave stone, formerly in the Portland Quarry Graveyard. This yard has since been moved, and this stone is probably in the yard back of Trinity (Episcopal) Church.

SAMUEL HUNN bought the 91st lot in the division of 1693, containing 25½ acres, Aug. 14, 1695. His name appears prominently in the town and society records. He located in the North part of the Parish. He died Nov. 1, 1738, aged 67, according to the inscription on his grave stone, which has the following lines.

"The flesh and bones of Samuel Hunn
Lie underneath this Tomb,
Oh, lett them rest in Quietness,
Until the day of Doome."

He left descendants; but the name of Hunn, as well as that of Andrus, has become extinct in Newington.

As the saw mill was in operation in 1678, a dwelling house was doubtless erected near it at that date, for the accommodation of the workmen. Joseph Andrus bought Sept. 24, 1702, the saw mill with two acres of land, and dwelling house thereon, with the pondage, bounded on all sides on the common, except the East where it was bounded on his own land, and located "on or near a place usually called Cowplain." This may have been the first dwelling house on the saw mill lots. His son, Ephraim, leased for a gross sum, for 999 years, August. 16, 1716, to James Francis, one third part of the saw mill, which came to him from his father.—(IV. *Weth. Ld. Rec.*, 196.)

Among the petitioners for the incorporation of the West Society presented to the Wethersfield Town Meeting, held Dec. 24, 1712, was NATHANIEL CHURCHILL, who was appointed a Surveyor in 1705, and was probably the first Surveyor in Newington.

JOHN STODDARD, also a petitioner, was appointed a "surveyor for the West Farms" in 1708. JABEZ WHITTLESEY, another petitioner, was appointed a "surveyor for the West Farms" in 1709, and was voted an inhabitant in the following year. ELIPHALET WHITTLESEY was appointed a surveyor in 1710.

All, or nearly all, the signers to that petition were inhabitants in the West Farms in 1712, and those not inhabitants were proprietors therein.

JOHN GRISWOLD was an inhabitant in 1713. JAMES FRANCIS and ISAAC BUCK¹ were inhabitants in 1716. Buck owned the corner lot where Dea. Heman A. Whittlesey has lived, while Francis lived on the next lot South across the street.

RICHARD BORDMAN lived on the lot now owned by the estate of Henry M. Robbins, a little North of the Robbins residence. Enoch Buck² probably lived on the next lot north.

¹Grandson of Henry Buck.

²Grandson of Emanuel Buck.

ABRAHAM WARREN bought May 29, 1708, 15 acres of lot No. 103, in the East Tier located either opposite the Parsonage Lot or, as the Parsonage Lot was removed east ten rods in 1718, a part of his purchase was probably then embraced in the Parsonage Lot. There was an arbitration in 1728 between Warren and the Society, and there was "some part of the parsonage awarded to him." (*Annals of Newington*, p. 41.) Warren probably lived on this lot.

JOHN WHAPLES lived on the South side of the old road that formerly led from the Green to Cedar Mountain, and Dr. JOSEPH ANDRUS lived on the north side of said road. EPHRAIM WHAPLES lived on the Main Street south of John Whaples. BENJAMIN ANDRUS lived where Lucas now resides, on the Saw-mill lot owned by his father, Joseph Andrus. EPHRAIM ANDRUS probably lived on the Andrus homestead until he sold out, as his name does not appear in the Society records, and some deeds given by him are upon the town records: and his brother Caleb is afterwards found in possession of the homestead. SIMON WILLARD, JOHN STODDARD, JOSEPH CAMP, JOHN CAMP, SAMUEL HUN and NATHANIEL HUN all lived in the North part of the Society. The residences of others have already been given, and the rest are unknown.

The First Meeting House.—The main reason urged for establishing the "West Divisions" as a parish, in the petition to the town, Dec. 24, 1712, was that the petitioners might carry on the worship of God among themselves. Yet the location of the first, as well as the second meeting house was the fruitful source of bitter contentions for years.

The first location, made by the town committee and approved by the town, March 23, 1712-13, was "adjacent to the house of Joseph Hurlbut and John Griswold," and was so far north of the center of the "West Divisions," that it was the cause of the secession of Beckley Quarter to the Great Swamp Society, as already related. Stanley Quarter consented to be annexed to the West Society upon the condition that the meeting house "be set upon the Plain in the common land, about 20 or 30 rods to the Northward from the house formerly belonging to Joseph Andrus," which site was near the east end of the highway from Stanley Quarter to the main Street of the new parish, and was the most convenient site for them that could be obtained. The Committee of the General Assembly reported in favor of this site. The act of the Assembly, passed in October, 1715, ratified the exchange, although that act omitted all reference to the site of the meeting house. However, the people of the new society were disposed to keep the compact that had been made, and actually brought the timber for the meeting house to the

proposed site. The society voted April 5, 1716, "to raise our meeting house in this instant month April, and also that the said meeting house should be raised within a few rods of the place where the timber now lies." John Stoddard, Sam'l. Hunn, and Stephen Buck were appointed a committee to carry the vote into effect. The meeting house was raised, and at a meeting held May 15, 1716, the same committee were chosen to cover and underpin the house. No other meeting of the Society was held for more than a year and six months. Of course the meeting house remained in the meantime *in statu quo*. Some opposition to the site must have arisen, for at a town meeting held Dec. 10, 1718, the following action was taken.

"The town did then by vote release the inhabitants of the West Society in said Wethersfield, from paying their part in the ministerial charge for the year past upon this condition: that they convene and consent that their meeting house should be brought to John Whaples' Hill. It is to be understood by ministerial charge, the charge for the support of the minister in Wethersfield." (II. W. Town Votes, 5.) John Whaples' hill was probably the hill where is located the present parsonage house. Although our ancestors considered a meeting house a great blessing, and the greater blessing the nearer it was to their homes, and were willing to fight for it if their consciences approved, this appeal to their pockets did not meet with their approval. They were men of strong convictions and resolute wills, and lived in "times that tried men's souls" and that gave them great force of character, but they rejected the bait offered by the town and stood by their compact. There is extant a long argument against the removal probably submitted to a society meeting, or to the prudential committee of the society. The society records of those days in the society's infancy are very meagre, and give no record of any society vote upon the subject. The building of the meeting house went on slowly. The society did vote, however, on May 6th, 1719, "to petition to the General Assembly for repeal of that act concerning an exchange between some part of the bounds of Farmington and Wethersfield," and Jabez Whittelsey was appointed agent to present the petition, which he did, but it was not granted. The society voted, April 21, 1720, "To get hewed planks and lay a floor in our meeting house, and to get window frames and glass for the lower tier of windows, and also to make doors for our meeting house." This was a decided step forward, and shows that the question of site was considered settled. This was a few rods southeast of the present church, and the building faced the east, without steeple or bell, and was never painted. It stood for eighty years.

At a society meeting held Jan'y. 15, 1719-20, John Stoddard and Abraham Warren were appointed "a committee to treat with Mr. Nathaniel Burnham to come and preach with us." This was the first invitation given by the new Society to any minister to preach in Newington. Mr. Nathaniel Burnham was a resident of Wethersfield, the son of William and Elizabeth Burnham, and the brother of the Rev. William Burnham, of the Great Swamp Society. He graduated at Yale in 1709. He never became a settled minister, but lived in Wethersfield, and held many prominent positions. He married May 5, 1714, Mehitable, daughter of John and Hannah Chester. They had four sons and one daughter. The latter married Elisha Williams, Jr. He died Dec. 16, 1754, aged 55. The ministers who preached in the first meeting house as settled pastors were Rev. Elisha Williams (1720-1726), Rev. Simon Backus (1726-1746), and Rev. Joshua Belden (1747-1803). The history of the church during the successive pastorates is really the history of Newington, and will be so treated.

Ministers of the Congregational Church.—REV. ELISHA WILLIAMS. *Pastor 1720-1726.*—Mr. Williams, was the 4th son of the Rev. William Williams, pastor at Hatfield, Mass., and his wife Elizabeth Cotton, daughter of Rev. Seaborn Cotton of Hampton, N. H., and was born at Hatfield, Aug. 20, 1694. He entered Sophomore at Harvard College in 1708, and graduated with honor in 1711. The year after his graduation he taught a grammar school at Hadley, Mass. On Feb'y. 23, 1714, he married Eunice, daughter of Thomas Chester of Wethersfield, settled there, and represented that town in the legislature for five consecutive terms, in all of which he was clerk of the House, except one when he was auditor of public accounts. He also, during this period, went on a voyage to Canso, an island near Nova Scotia, where he preached to fishermen for a season. In the years 1716-1718 he acted as tutor to Yale students at Wethersfield. In 1720 he had a severe fit of sickness, and in the language of Pres. Stiles, became "sanctified". The Newington Society, by advice, as is said, of the Rev. Mr. Mix of Wethersfield, and some other ministers of the neighborhood, appointed a committee April 6, 1720, "to treat with Mr. Elisha Williams to come and be our minister in Newington." This probably meant that he should come and preach on trial, or "on probation," as it was sometimes phrased. He undoubtedly accepted this invitation, because we find that the Society voted Aug. 5, 1720: "We did make choice of the Rev. Mr. Elisha Williams to be our minister." The next important matter was to agree upon the terms of his settlement and salary, which, as the service was then usually life-long, and Mr. Williams was only about



Rev. and Rector

Elisha Williams
Wethersfield May 28th 1752

26 years old, meant a great deal for both parties. Jabez Whittlesey and Abraham Woren were appointed a committee to agree with him and "make return" to the Society. They did not succeed satisfactorily it would seem, for they made no return, and the society appointed another committee Dec. 6, 1720, consisting of Samuel Hun and John Camp, to effect a settlement with him and "make return" to the society. They were also instructed to "endeavor with the town to get a piece of land for our minister, by gift, or exchange, or purchase, according as they shall see most likely to obtain it." This probably indicates *one* of the difficulties of the situation. Mr. Williams must have a house, and a site upon which it could be located. It was customary for towns to make grants of lands to their ministers, out of the town commons, and there was common land in the vicinity of the meeting house in this society, from which a good site could be chosen. Perhaps, indeed, Mr. Williams had already indicated his preference for a site. At all events, this committee soon succeeded in coming to terms with him, for a meeting of the society was called Dec. 21, 1720, when the following agreement was voted.

1. His settlement was to be £170, "to be paid in money or labor done to building him a house, to be paid in two years after this present date, and he shall also have that money that is subscribed or shall be subscribed in the time." Which indicates that a subscription paper had been circulated for his benefit, and was to be circulated two years longer.

2. It was also voted:—"To give to him two days' work in a year of every man that is or shall be in this Society from sixteen years old and upward, capable of labor, for the space of five years ensuing this date, which labor is to be done half in the summer and half in the winter, yearly."

This is an interesting instance of the extraordinary extent of power exercised by an ecclesiastical society in those days of the union of church and state. No man was exempt from the two days' labor whether a church member or not, or whatever his religious belief or his rank in life; nothing but bodily incapacity freed him from the claims of the minister who labored for his spiritual benefit. The labor of the minister was repaid by the labor of his parishioners. The one was a just equivalent for the other, in their estimation. The fact that minors between 16 and 21 years of age, who had no vote, were taxed was of no consequence. Taxation without representation was too common to excite remark.

3. It was also voted:—"To give Mr. Williams, for his salary fifty pounds the two first years, and so to rise two pounds a year until we come to seventy pounds per year, and so to continue so long as he con-

tinues in the work of the ministry with us." This vote contemplated a service of 12 years before the £70 limit should be reached, when Mr. Williams would be 38 years of age. His salary was thus to be gradually increased until he reached the prime of life.

4. It was further voted:—"To raise a rate on polls and all ratable estate, to pay Mr. Williams from the time of his first coming unto the last of March, in proportion to a rate of fifty pounds a year, and then to begin the year with Mr. Williams." As the year then began with the 25th day of March, or "Lady Day," which was considered the date of Annunciation to the Virgin Mary of the future birth of her divine son, and therefore an appropriate day for the beginning of the year of our Lord, this vote shows that the regular yearly salary of Mr. Williams was to begin March 25th, 1721, but it authorizes a minister's rate to pay him for his past services before Dec. 21, 1720, "from the time of his first coming," and until the new year. It is probable that this special rate covered nearly or quite a year's services. If he had not preached for them before the first invitation given him to become their minister, on April 6, 1720, he undoubtedly did so soon after, and certainly before Aug. 5, 1720, when final "choice" of him was made by a formal vote of the Society.

The salary of £50 a year was equivalent to \$166.67 in our money. His settlement of £170 was equal to \$566.67, which was to be paid him in money or labor in building him a house in two years. At a meeting held January 4, 1720-21, it was voted: "For a man to have 2s. - 6d. (42¢) per day from this time to the first of March, and for a man and team to have 5s. (83¢) per day, to work at Mr. William's house." From this vote it would appear that work on his house was begun before the site was secured from the town, but probably the committee had received such assurances from the town authorities as to the grant, that no doubt was felt as to the outcome. At a meeting, held Feby. 16, 1720-21, it was voted: "To pay Mr. Williams rate in grain at the price as followeth, viz.: Wheat at 5s. (83¢) per bushel, rye at 3s. - 4d. (56¢) per bushel, Indian corn at 2s. 4d. (39¢) per bushel." Also liberty was given him "to make a seat or pew for his family in our meeting house," which indicates that his family attended meeting there. At a Town meeting held March 6, 1720-21, there was voted a "grant of eight acres of land to Mr. Elisha Williams; to be laid out near to the widow Elizabeth Andrus' dwelling house, northwestwardly, so as not to hinder or obstruct any highway."—(*II Weth. Town Votes*, 11.) Lieut. Robert Welles, Mr. Jabez Whittlesey and Jonathan Burnham, as a committee of the town, laid out the grant "15 or 16 rods northward of Widow Andrus' barn,"

and their action was approved Dec. 11, 1721, by the town.—(2 *Weth. Town Votes*, 14.) Thus it appears that the Society's agreement with Mr. Williams was gradually carried out in good faith by the Town as well as the Society. This grant covered the site of Mr. Williams' house already in process of erection. The building of this house and the finishing of the meeting house taxed the abilities of the Society so severely that on May 10, 1721, they voted to petition the General Assembly for relief. The greater part of the land in Newington was then unimproved and therefore by law not taxable, and Jabez Whittlesey was appointed to present the condition of affairs to the Assembly. He petitioned that the unimproved lands might be subjected to "a reasonable tax for a reasonable time," and that the Society might be "named and called Newington." The Assembly granted May 25, 1721, that the Society might "raise a tax annually on all the land in the said parish or society that by law is not ratable of 10s. (\$1.67) per the hundred acres, and *pro rata* for greater or lesser parcels, for the term of four years next coming; and that the said society or parish be called Newington."—(VI, *Conn. Col. Rec.*, 246.) The parish voted December 13, 1721, "To undertake to build a barn for their pastor." February 8, 1721-2, "That the remainder of the fifty pounds and the tax laid on the proprietors' unimproved land, to be laid out in our meeting house, to build a pulpit and deacon seat, and to prepare timber and nails for the finishing the lower part of our meeting house, and to proceed as far as we can with the money granted." The "fifty pounds" referred to was that due from the Beckleys, on their bond, and the "remainder" mentioned was probably the last installment of twelve pounds and ten shillings; while the tax on the "unimproved land" was that authorized by the Act of the General Assembly, above cited, of one shilling for every ten acres.

The society voted, September 5, 1722, "That Mr. Elisha Williams shall have sixty pounds money for his salary this year, and next year he shall have sixty-two pounds, and so to raise two pounds a year for the space of ten years, which will make eighty pounds, and so to continue eighty pounds per year so long as he continues in the work of the ministry with us." This was a decided increase in his salary as first agreed and voted. Also he was to be furnished with his wood annually. These preliminaries being settled, it was also voted that "Richard Borman, Ebenezer Kilburn, James Francis, Isaac Buck, should keep a public house of entertainment on the day of the ordination of the Rev. Mr. Elisha Williams." Ebenezer Kilburn lived across the street from the new meeting house. Richard Boardman lived on the south Sawmill

lot, formerly granted to his uncle Samuel Boardman, as already detailed. His house stood about half way between the residence of Henry M. Robbins, deceased, and that old house which formerly stood opposite the Brown place, where are now the old well and foundations to be seen. This last house stood on the Sawmill lot granted to Emanuel Buck. Isaac Buck owned and probably lived on Cabbage Hill, where Dea. Heman A. Whittlesey has lived, while James Francis lived south of Buck on the opposite side of the street, the two on lots 20 and 21 respectively of the Mile-in-Breadth. The day of ordination was a day of rejoicing in those days, followed by the ordination *ball* in the evening, when it was considered a religious duty to make merry with dancing and feasting, while good liquor formed no inconsiderable part of the "entertainment."

It was further voted, September 12, 1722, that "Having had considerable experience of his life, etc., we do make choice, by a full vote, of the Rev. Mr. Elisha Williams to be our minister and pastor."

"Also voted, To Keep Wednesday, the 3d of October, next ensuing, as a fast, to implore divine assistance of God in gathering a church of Christ here, and in the ordination of the Rev. Mr. Elisha Williams."

Rev. Stephen Mix of Wethersfield and Rev. Samuel Whitman of Farmington were invited "to assist on the day of fasting as above mentioned;" and a committee was appointed "to take care and provide for the minister and messengers on that day of ordination."

Also, voted that the third Wednesday, the 17th day of October next ensuing, to be the day of the ordination of the Rev. Mr. Elisha Williams.

The church was duly organized on October 3, 1722, and JOHN DEMING was chosen the first deacon of the church; and we can imagine him occupying thereafter the deacon seat, in front of the pulpit, and facing the congregation for nearly forty years, until his death, May 1, 1761. There is no record extant of the "ministers and messengers" who officiated on the day of ordination. But, as the custom was, Mr. Williams was examined as to his doctrinal views, and preached his ordination sermon before the Reverend Elders, and was set apart for a lifelong service with the new church, as was then supposed. In fact, his pastorate only continued till May, 1726, by reason of his having been chosen rector of Yale College. At the first society meeting after the ordination, held December 20, 1722, a committee was appointed "to seat our meeting house," and on March 1, 1722-3, it was voted "To fill the walls and lath and plaster the lower part of our meeting house." It was voted December 31, 1723, "That our committee should purchase a drum, and add it to our present society charge." And thereafter the

people assembled at the house of God on the Sabbath and Lecture Days, at the sound of the drum-beat, accompanying the pastor from his residence to the church, where they heard him beat the drum ecclesiastic from his high pulpit.

School.—The first mention of a *school* occurs in the record of this meeting, in the appointment of Jabez Whittlesey and Isaac Buck "a school committee, and the country money to them to defray a part of the charge of a school." Every society was obliged by law to keep a school at least half the year. The "country money" was payable out of the Colony Treasury for the support of schools.—(6 *Col. Rec.*, 400.) A society having less than seventy families was only obliged to have a school half of the year, and the Newington society voted January 6, 1725-6, "To have a school six months in this society for the instruction of children, and all the charge more than is allowed by the country to be raised on the polls of those children whom their parents send to school." The unfinished state of the meeting house is shown by the vote at the same date, "To provide all joists and boards for the galleries' floor of our meeting house, and to lath and plaster the walls of our meeting house up to the plate, and the new windows to be put up below, and the present windows of our meeting house to be put up above."

Burying Ground.—It was considered fitting that God's house should have a "God's acre" near at hand. Accordingly the Town voted, March 7, 1725-6, "To Newington society one acre of land for a burying place, near their meeting house or elsewhere in the half-mile common, and to be laid out by Deacon Jabez Whittlesey, Deacon John Deming and Richard Bordman, who shall bound out the same by sufficient monuments, and record it to said society." This committee afterwards reported that they had "laid out an acre of land for said purpose a little north of the meeting house in said Newington, including the old burying place, and bounded it out by sufficient monuments, it being sixteen rods in length east and west, and ten rods in width north and south." This report was not made until December 4, 1752, but the land must have been laid out soon after the appointment of the committee, for Lydia Buck, the wife of Pelatiah Buck, who died July 29, 1726, was "the first that was laid in this yard," according to the inscription on her grave stone.

The title of *Deacon* is first given to JABEZ WHITTELSEY in the town vote above cited. He was the second deacon of the church, and was appointed between January 6 and March 7, 1725-6. No church record exists during the pastorates of the first two ministers.

Mr. Williams had been chosen Rector of Yale College by the trustees

September 29, 1725, but was not installed until September, 1726, for the reason that the society had been to considerable expense in settling him. On the 4th of May, 1726, £200, 16s., were awarded to the society by a committee of arbitration chosen by the trustees and the society, of which sum £100, 16s., were paid by the colony, and £100 by the college. He probably dissolved his connection with the society at once, for on May 25, 1726, the society voted, "To call the Rev. Mr. Simon Backus upon probation for our minister." Mr. Williams acted as Rector at Yale College till October, 1739, when he resigned on account of ill health. He was afterwards Speaker of the House of Representatives, Judge of the Superior Court, Chaplain to the State forces sent in April, 1745, in the expedition against Cape Breton, Colonel of a regiment raised to be sent to Canada, which, however, did not go, and State agent to Great Britain to negotiate for the payment of the expenses incurred. He supplied the pulpit in Newington temporarily in 1746, for it appears by the Treasurer's book that the society voted in December, 1746, to pay "Mr. Elisha Williams for supplying our pulpit in Mr. Backus' stead £47, 10s." He died July 24, 1755. After he became sensible that the messenger of death was sent for him, he said "Blessed be God, the wished for hour is come." A fuller account of this remarkable man and his descendants is given in the *Williams Genealogy*, in our second volume.

In theology he was classed as a moderate supporter of the "New Lights," as might be assumed, perhaps, from his intimate associations with that class of religionists, during his stay in England. Again, says Dexter, "on the other hand it is known that he shared the prejudices of his half-brothers against his cousin, Jonathan Edwards, in the quarrel at Northampton, and that, at the time of his going to England, he had begun a reply to Edwards' Treatise on the Qualifications for Communion. An anonymous pamphlet, issued at Boston, in 1744, was attributed to his pen. It was entitled: "*The essential Rights and Liberties of Protestants; a Seasonable Plea for the Liberty of Conscience, and the Right of private Judgment in Matters of Religion, without any Control from Human Authority. Being a Letter from a Gentleman in the Massachusetts-Bay to his Friend in Connecticut. Wherein Some Thoughts on the Origin, End and Extent of the Civil Power, with brief Considerations on several State Laws in Connecticut are humbly offered,* Boston 1744, 8vo., pp. 66."

The argument of this pamphlet is a searching arraignment of the Act of May, 1742, passed by the Conn. Assembly (of which he was a member) "for regulating Abuses and correcting Disorders," and un-

doubtedly reflects his opinions as to the extent of the Civil Magistrate's power concerning religion; though the authorship (with perhaps more reason) is attributed also to his classmate, the Hon. Thomas Cushing, then Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

His agency in collecting funds in England for the college of New Jersey is also an evidence of his sympathy with the "New Lights."

The estimation in which the Rev. Col. Williams was generally held was pretty fairly voiced by Rev. Dr. Dodridge, while Mr. W. was in England, thus: "I look upon Col. Williams to be one of the most valuable men upon earth; he has, joined to an ardent sense of Religion, solid learning, consummate prudence, great candor and sweetness of temper, and a certain nobleness of soul, capable of contriving and advising the greatest things without seeming to be conscious of his having done them."

The Rev. Charles Chauncy, of Boston, writing to Pres. Stiles, in 1768, says: "Mr. Williams of Hatfield, I am ready to think greater than any of his sons, though they were all men of more than common understanding. Rector Williams and his brother Solomon I give the preference to [over] the other sons; tho' they were all too apt to be governed in conduct by an undue regard to self, in one shape or another. This, as I imagine, was a family foible tho' one of the worst."

Yale College possesses a portrait of Rector Williams, painted by Moulthrop, from the original by Smibert, in the possession of the family. By his first wife, he had sons, Elisha, graduated at Yale, 1735; Samuel, graduated at Yale 1735; William, graduated at Yale 1739, and three daughters, of whom only Elisha and Mary survived their father.¹

His only published writings (unless, indeed, we accept the aforementioned pamphlet as from his pen) are the following:

1. *Divine Grace, Illustrious in the Salvation of Sinners.* A Sermon Delivered in the Audience of the General Assembly of the Colony of Conn., at New Haven, Octob. 33, 1727, in the time of the Sessions There. By Elisha Williams, A. M., and Rector of Yale College. Published by Order of the General Assembly. N. London. Printed and Sold by T. Green, Printer to the Governor & Company, 1728, pp. 47.

2. *Death the Advantage of the Godly.* A Sermon Delivered at Guilford, on the 9th of June, Anno Dom. 1728. Being the Lord's Day, next after the Funeral of the Rev. Mr. Thomas Ruggles, Pastor of the Church of Christ There, who Departed this Life on the First Instant, in the

¹ Dexter's *Yale Biographies*, 632-633; Sprague's *Annals of the American Pulpit*, I; *Celebration of 100 Anniversary of the Church Building and the 175th of the Organization of the Church at Newington, Conn.*, pp. 41-46.

Fifty-eighth year of his Age. By Elisha Williams, A. M., and Rector of Yale College. Printed at the Desire & charge of that Society. N. London, Printed and sold by T. Green, 1728, pp. 42.

The Sermon at Mr. Williams' death, was preached by Rev. Mr. Lockwood, pastor of the Old (or First) Society of Wethersfield.

The Rev. SIMON BACKUS, Pastor 1726-1746.—The second minister of Newington, was born at Norwich, Conn., February 11, 1700, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth (*Huntington*) Backus. He graduated at Yale College in 1724, and studied theology with Rev. Mr. Bulkeley of Colchester, Conn. In December, 1725, he entered into an engagement to supply the pulpit in Pungwonk, a society taken from Colchester and Lyme, till May, 1726. The society voted June 1, 1726, "To proceed to get some suitable person upon probation to be our minister," and "That Dea. John Deming and John Stodderd do, in behalf of the society, apply to Mr. Russel, Junior, of Middletown, to come and preach here upon probation; and if he shall decline it, then Dea. John Deming is to proceed to make application to Simon Backus of Norwich, to come here on the aforesaid purpose." It would appear that Mr. Russel¹ declined the invitation, and application was then made to Mr. Backus, who accepted the call, for the society voted, August 24, 1726, "To call Mr. Backus to be our minister." The terms of settlement were embodied in a vote of the society passed September 5, 1726, "One hundred and seventy-five pounds of the money given by the country and college, and all the money granted us in our country taxes, be it more or less." As £200, 16s., had been given by the country and college, and all the country taxes for four years "on condition that the money be improved towards settling another minister in said parish," it is now impossible to state the exact amount that he received. His salary was to be "Seventy pounds the first year, and so to rise as we rise in our lists, until we come to ninety pounds per year," also he was to have "his yearly wood, and the use of the parsonage."

Mr. Backus made answer to the society, September 7, 1726, as follows:

"That in a due sense of my unworthiness to be employed in, and insufficiency for that great and solemn work of the ministry, I accept of your call to that work, and accept your proposal for my settlement and yearly maintenance. Desiring your earnest prayers with mine, to the God of all grace, that I may come to you in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ."

¹ Probably the Rev. Daniel (son of Rev. Noadiah), of Middletown. He became the first minister of Stepany parish in Wethersfield, in 1726.

The society voted, November 21, 1726, "That the present committee is to agree with the man that boards Mr. Backus, to provide for him on the ordination day for victuals and drink convenient." The prudential committee at that time were Dea. John Deming, Joseph Hurlbut, and Isaac Buck. The same meeting appointed "Wednesday, the 28th day of December next," as the ordination day. But at the annual meeting, held December 19, 1726, it was voted, "That Wednesday, the 25th of January, next ensuing, to be the day of ordination of Mr. Simon Backus, and day of humiliation to be on Wednesday, the eleventh day." There was a fortnight between the fast and the ordination, as when Mr. Williams was ordained. A prudential committee was appointed consisting of Dea. John Deming, Samuel Hun, Sen., and Caleb Andrus. This committee apparently acted in the place of the former committee in providing "victuals and drink convenient" for Mr. Backus at his ordination, by agreement with his landlord. But some question must have arisen as to the power of this committee to act under the vote authorizing their predecessors to do so, and some must have refused to pay their share of the expense. At the annual meeting held December 18, 1727, it was voted, "That those men, to-wit: Dea. John Deming, Samuel Hun, Sen., Caleb Andrus, did agree with Ensign Richard Borman on the account of the ordination charge; we look upon that agreement to be good, and the levy made on that account to be good, and all those persons that are behind forthwith to pay their just dues." This technicality did not deprive Mr. Backus' landlord, Ens. Richard Bordman, of his just dues for the "victuals and drink" provided. The society voted December 16, 1734, "To finish the galleries in our meeting house, and lath and plaster the walls up to the plates and beams, and lath and plaster our meeting house overhead, and to glass the lower windows of our meeting house." "Also voted: Lieut. Martin Kellogg, Jonathan Whaples and Samuel Churchel, a committee to finish our meeting house." And it was voted December 15, 1735, that the same committee "shall have power to repair our meeting house, mend the roof, clapboarding and underpinning." These are all the votes relating to the meeting house passed during the ministry of Mr. Backus. On October 1, 1729, Mr. Backus married Eunice, daughter of Rev. Timothy Edwards of East Windsor, Conn. She was one of ten daughters, "every one of whom has been said to be six feet tall, making the 'sixty feet of daughters, and all of them strong in mind.'" Rev. Jonathan Edwards, author of the famous treatise on the Will, was her brother, and sometimes preached in Newington. (*Dr. Brace's Discourse*, pp. 14, 15.) He was 29 and she was 24 years of age at their

marriage, and they lived 16 years in Newington, and had eight children, six daughters and two sons.

At a Town meeting held December 11, 1727, there was "granted to Samuel Hunn and other persons, living remote from the meeting house in Newington, a liberty to erect at their own cost a *horse house* somewhere in the commons, near said meeting house, and under the direction of James Francis and Isaac Buck, as to the spot whereon said horse house is to stand." (*2 Town Votes*, 48.)

The first mention of a *schoolhouse* occurs in a vote passed at the annual meeting of the society, held December 15, 1729, when Ebenezer Kilburn and Nathaniel Churchel were appointed "a committee to cover the schoolhouse" and there was granted "four pounds to be raised on polls and all other ratable estate, and laid out on the schoolhouse, by the above said committee." This schoolhouse was presumably a near neighbor to the meeting house. No other school is mentioned during the ministry of Mr. Backus.

The grant of ten acres of land to Mr. Backus has already been recited. As his house was by the terms of the grant, to be built "immediately," it was probably erected that year, 1733. Dr. Brace, in the appendix to his half-century discourse, says of it, "That house was standing when I came into this place, and in it I have performed pastoral service. It belonged to the Robbins family, and stood on that rich swell of ground directly opposite the dwelling house of Lowrey and Martin Robbins. It went by the name of the "Backus house, because he was the only minister that ever dwelt in it."

The convention of the General Association of Connecticut held its annual meeting June 18, 1745, at that house. The ministers present were Benjamin Colton, Moderator, pastor at West Hartford from 1713 to 1754, Abraham Nott, pastor at Centerbrook from 1725 to 1756, Jacob Eliot, pastor at Goshen from 1729 to 1766, Simon Backus, Elnathan Whitman, Scribe, pastor of the second church of Hartford from 1733 to 1767, William Gaylord, pastor at Wilton from 1733 to 1765, Ephraim Avery, pastor at Brooklyn, in Pomfret, from 1735 to 1754. They passed a vote, among others, that if Mr. George Whitefield "should make his progress through this government, it would by no means be advisable for any of our ministers to admit him into their pulpits, or for any of our people to attend upon his preaching and administrations."

At a Town meeting, held December 13, 1731, it was voted, "That Newington and Stepney parishes be henceforth released from paying any part of the bell ringer's yearly charge." (*II Weth. Town Votes*, 76.) The town voted March 5, 1743-4, "That the present selectmen

draw out of the town treasury a sufficient sum of money to purchase plank for two bridges over Piper's River, one near Woodbridge's farm, the other in the highway between Mr. Elisha Williams' land and James Francis'; and also for the bridge called Beaver bridge." (II *Weth. Town Votes*, 136.)

The second bridge was over the brook at the foot of the hill west of the residence of Edwin Welles. The first was over the same brook west of the former residence of the Atwood family, on the old road, now abandoned.

The following minister's rate, in part, has come down to us, for the year 1735, and the payments made upon it in the year 1736. It shows how the minister's salary was paid in those days, and that he was largely his own collector. It is as follows:

Sec. 43.	<i>The Minister's Rate, 1735, in Part.</i>		£
Doctor Andrus,	2 - 0 - 0	Joseph Deming,	0 - 17 - 5
Joshua Andrus,	1 - 0 - 0	Hez. Deming,	1 - 00 - 7
Willm. Andrus,	0 - 2 - 0	James Francis,	2 - 15 - 0
Josiah Atwood,	2 - 10 - 10	Thomas Francis,	1 - 15 - 6
Caleb Andrus,	1 - 07 - 0	Benj. Goodrich,	1 - 14 - 2
Widow Andrus,	0 - 10 - 5	Joseph Hurlbut,	1 - 2 - 7
Thomas Buck,	0 - 10 - 2	Charles Hurlbut,	0 - 15 - 9
Joseph Benton,	2 - 13 - 5	Joseph Hurlbut, Jr.,	0 - 11 - 1
Thomas Beccroft, Jr.,	0 - 05 - 0	Josiah Hurlbut,	0 - 12 - 6
Gamal. Bordman,	1 - 04 - 0	Majr. Hun,	1 - 15 - 5
Jonathan Blin, Jun.,	0 - 14 - 5	Sam'l Hun, Jun.,	1 - 11 - 5
Jonathan Blin, Sen.,	0 - 15 - 1	David Hun,	0 - 11 - 1
Mr. Richard Bordman,	2 - 00 - 5		
Isaac Buck,	1 - 00 - 11	<i>Footed</i>	23 - 8 - 5
Pellatiah Buck,	1 - 08 - 7	Gidn. Hun,	0 - 13 - 0
Nathl. Churchill,	1 - 10 - 5	Henry Kirkham,	0 - 14 - 5
David Churchill,	1 - 03 - 9	Ebenezer Kilborn,	1 - 15 - 0
Capt. Camp,	2 - 19 - 5	Capt. Kellogg,	3 - 15 - 9
		Josiah Riley,	0 - 19 - 9
	28 - 8 - 0	John Rodgers,	0 - 08 - 8
Widow Churchill,	0 - 2 - 5	Joseph Root,	0 - 19 - 1
Deen. Deming,	2 - 17 - 10		
Lieut. Deming,	2 - 14 - 2		32 - 14 - 4
Josiah Deming,	2 - 10 - 4		

Our limits do not permit of our giving, in full, as we should like to do, the *credit side* of Mr. Backus' rate book, but we cull from it a few items to show how a minister's rate was paid in those days, and that he was largely his own collector:

Sec. 44.		Payments on Rate, 1736.	£
Jan.	2d, 1735-6.	Josiah Kilborn, Credit. To 3 Bushels of Indian Corn,	0 - 12 - 0
Jan.	2d, 1735-6.	David Churchill, Credit, To weaving a piece of Town Cloth,	0 - 15 - 0
Feb'y	13, 1735-6.	Then received of the Coll'r., Gamaliel Bordman,*	1 - 17 - 9
Feb'y	14, 1735-6.	Jonathan Blin, Credit. to 4 B. and half oats, We. wth. former credit.	0 - 11 - 3
Feb.	20, 1735-6.	closes his rate, and balances all accts. between us.	
		Jonathan Blin, Jun., Credit., To bringing 3 hundred of hay from town, we. is to go towards pasturing his calves last year,	0 - 1 - 6
Feb'y	25, 1735-6.	Bavill Symou[r], Credit., Ye whole of his rate,	1 - 1 - 8
Feb.	1735-6.	Male [Gamaliel] Bordman [the Collector?], Credit.,	0 - 5 - 0
Feb'y	29, 1735-6.	Josiah Kilborn, Credit., To a par of shoes,	0 - 9 - 0
March	24, 1735-6.	Sargt. Woren [Warren], Credit., To 4 Bushels of Indian corn in ye eare,	0 - 9 - 0
April	21, 1736.	Ephrm. Whaples, Credit., To part of the price a gun, ye whole of his rate,	1 - 8 - 7
April	21, 1736.	To Daniel Wright, Credit., To half a day, mending fence,	0 - 2 - 5
April	21, 1736.	David Wright, Credit., To one Bushel of oats,	0 - 2 - 5
		And to sowing and harrowing about one acre of oats, and plowing my garden,	0 - 6 - 0
April	23, 1736.	Joseph Deming, Credit., To one day, mending fence,	0 - 4 - 6
May	1736.	Sargt. Woren [Warren], Credit., To half a peck of seed corn,	0 - 0 - 6
		And to his son's making a pair of shoes for Nabe.	
May	8, 1736.	Sargt. Woren, Credit., To one day plowing	0 - 10 - 0
May	8, 1736.	Henry Curkom [Kirkham], Credit., To one day mending fence,	0 - 4 - 0
May	8, 1736.	David Churchhill, Credit., To one day mending fence, with his team to draw posts,	0 - 4 - 0
May	17, 1736.	Mr. Deming, Credit., To two days and half plowing,	1 - 5 - 0
		The Widow Andrus, Credit., To the Boot on exchange between a three year old heffer and a yearling calf,	2 - 0 - 0
		We. with her former credit. clears her rate, and four shillings and a penny over, we. I am indebted to her.	
May	19, 1736.	Ebenez. Smith, Credit., By Ephriam Whaples, ye whole of his R.,	1 - 2 - 0
		We. is to go as so much paid towards ye gun we. I bought of Ephr'm. And paid towards ye gun in cash,	10 - 10 - 0
April,	1736.	Ephrm. Whaples, Dr., To some meal,	0 - 2 - 0
		So y't I am indebted to Ephr'm Whaples towards ye gun,	1 - 7 - 6
July,		Joseph Benton, Credit., To 23 pounds and half of beef, 4 pence per pound,	0 - 7 - 10
Latter end,	1736.		
Oct.	17, 1736.	Judah Wright, Credit., To half a day work, helping in his father's Room, while he went wth. me to father Edwards (meaning Rev. Timothy Edwards, East Windsor),	0 - 2 - 0
Oct.	28, 1736.	James Tryon, Credit., To one Dozn. & half pygins,	0 - 1 - 1

Oct.,	1736.	Deen. Whittelsey, Credit., Towards his rate next March, on account of Hannah Grout's spinning for my wife,	0 - 18 - 3
Oct.,	1736.	Jonathan Wright, Credit., On Ephriam Whaples, his acct. we. with his former credit. clears his R. Same is to go as so much paid to Ephriam Whaples, towards ye gun we. I bought of him, so y't yre. is due to him,	0 - 13 - 6
Aug.,	1736.	Sergt. Abraham Woren, Credit., To his wife knitting two pair of stockings,	0 - 12 - 0
Sept.	25, 1736.	Judah Wright, Credit., Towards his rate, to one day's work of Reuben, negro. to making hay	0 - 5 - 8
		And to one of mowing,	0 - 5 - 0
Oct.,	1736.	Sergt. Buck, Credit., To 12 pounds of beef,	0 - 4 - 0
		And to cash,	1 - 0 - 0
Oct.,	1736.	David Wright, Credit., To part of a day's work, by Henry Curcom, and team, at gathering corn,	0 - 4 - 0

* Chosen Collector, Dec. 15, 1735.

Rev. Mr. Backus was appointed by Gov. Jonathan Law as Chaplain to the Connecticut troops, which were engaged in the siege and capture of the City of Louisburg, on Isle Cape Breton, in 1745. He must have sailed from N. London with the troops who were to embark "in a very few days." On December 27, 1745, he preached at Louisburg to the troops from Deut. XXX, 19: "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore, choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live," a text undoubtedly appropriate to the time, as owing to the unhealthy climate and unsanitary situation great mortality prevailed among the troops. This may have been his last public message to the dying soldiers, under his charge, for after closing the eyes of many a son of Connecticut in death, he himself fell a victim to the prevailing sickness, and died February 2, 1745-6. His personal effects were shipped on board of a vessel for New England, which foundered on the voyage, and all was lost. Mrs. Backus presented a memorial to the General Assembly, at its May session, 1746, setting forth a loss of £300 by the shipwreck and that body granted her £100 at that session, and £200 at the following October session. The Newington society recognized him as its minister up to the date of his decease, as appears by the following receipt recorded upon its record book.

"Newington, Novembr. ye 27, 1746. Then received of Benajah Andrus, Collector, the full sum of the rate for the year 1745; I say received by me.

"EUNICE BACKUS."

From March 25, 1746, till Mr. Belden began to preach on May 10, 1747, Newington had only a temporary supply for its pulpit. Rev. Elisha Williams supplied the vacancy till the annual meeting in December, 1746, and how much longer cannot now be told. Mrs. Backus continued to reside in Newington for some years after her husband's death, and then removed to the home of her father in East Windsor, where she died June 1, 1788, aged 84 years. Of Mr. Backus as a minister, Dr. Brace says: "From all the testimony which I have found, I am convinced that Mr. Backus was a substantial, orthodox, pious minister, that gave good satisfaction to the people during his ministry."

Rev. Stephen Mix, pastor at Wethersfield, died August 28, 1738, in the 44th year of his ministry, and the Rev. Simon Backus preached his funeral sermon, and that society voted March 8, 1739, to print the sermon if a copy could be obtained.

Newington's Early Military Record.—During the ministry of Rev. Simon Backus, occurred the war between England and Spain. War was declared in 1739, and on March 4, 1744, France also declared war against England. Of course, England's American Colonies were involved in the dangers, and their military service demanded by this political emergency.

A trainband or military company was organized at Newington meeting house, October 18, 1726, by the choice of JOHN CAMP as Captain, EPHRAIM DEMING, Lieutenant, and RICHARD BOARDMAN, Ensign. This first company in Newington included Beckley Quarter, and was the fourth in the Town of Wethersfield, there having been two in the first society and one in Rocky Hill prior to this time. Those on the muster-roll in Newington had been previously attached to the North or Second Company of the first society. These three officers were prominent among the early settlers. Capt. Camp died February 4, 1747, in his seventy-second year. He left a son, John, born in 1701, who was deacon of the church from July 2, 1761, to his death, July 27, 1782. He lived in a house west of the residence of the late Shubael Whaples. Lient. Deming died November 14, 1742, in his 57th year. Ensign Boardman became a lieutenant. (See *B. Genealogy*.)

Capt. Martin Kellogg, Jr.—The second Captain was MARTIN KELLOGG, appointed in October, 1735. He was born Oct. 26, 1686, the son of Martin and Anne (*Hinsdale*) Kellogg, and lived with his father in Deerfield, Mass., when that place was sacked by the French and Indians, February 29, 1704. His father and four children, including himself, were captured, and compelled to make the long march of 25

days through the snow to Canada. The children in their captivity learned the Indian language. The eldest daughter, Joanna, became attached to that mode of life, and married an Indian chief. The other three, Martin, Joseph and Rebecca, became useful frequently afterwards as interpreters. Martin made his escape in May, 1705, and returned to Deerfield with three other captives, after a journey in which they almost perished from hardship, suffering and hunger. In August, 1708, a scout of six men from Deerfield fell into an ambush of Indians near Cowass, about 100 miles up the Connecticut River. Martin Kellogg, after shooting one of the enemy, was taken captive a second time.

On his arrival at Canada, he and others were compelled to "run the gauntlet" at the fort, Sault au Recollet, or fort "Oso," on the bank of the Riviere des Prairie, in Montreal. This ordeal has been thus described: "Two long rows of savages, armed with clubs and hatchets, were formed at the gate of the fort. Between these the weary and footsore captives ran for nearly three-quarters of a mile, the savages mocking and striking at them as they ran. Then came the dreadful pow-wow, when the poor sufferers were made to sing and dance round a great fire, while their tormentors yelled and shrieked."¹ Martin Kellogg, according to the family tradition, had his toe-nails pulled out by the roots. He remained in captivity for several years, among the French and Indians and learned the language of both. He must have regained his liberty by the year 1712, for in that year he petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts for some compensation for the ransom paid by him, which body passed the following resolution, November 3, 1712:

"Resolved: That the sum of Twenty-five Pounds be allowed and paid out of the public Treasury to Martin Kellogg of Deerfield, in full of his petition for a Ransom, paid to obtain his liberty from the Indians, expences at Quebeck, and for the loss of his arms, &c., being taken prisoner when in her Majesty's Service."

In 1715, he presented a second petition for further remuneration, as appears by the following resolution passed December 6, 1715, by the Massachusetts Court. "Upon reading a Petition of Martin Kellogg, Importing: That being an Inhabitant of the Town of Deerfield in the time of the great Destruction of it by the French and Indians about twelve years since, and a great Sufferer both in the loss of his estate, and in the hardship of a tedious and long Captivity, from which by a dangerous adventure he escaped, and has since been in the service, and at all times shewed himself ready to serve his Country; and humbly

¹ Alice Baker's *True Stories of New England Captives*, p. 241.

praying that the General Court will be pleased to consider his Circumstances, and make him such recompence as they shall think meet.

"In the House of Representatives.

"Resolved: That the sum of Ten Pounds be allowed and paid out of the Public Treasury to Martin Kellogg, the Petitioner, in consideration of his uncommon Bravery and Suffering in the Public Service. In Council. Read and Concurred."

A treaty of peace between the belligerent nations was signed at Utrecht, March 30, 1713, and Martin Kellogg, who had been, about 1712, released after several years of captivity, was married January 13, 1716, by Rev. Stephen Mix, to Dorothy (daughter of Stephen and Dorothy) Chester, of Wethersfield.¹ He took up his residence in Wethersfield, and was elected to office there in 1716. For a time he lived at the Latimer place, next east of the Congregational church. In 1726, he was appointed one of the committee to arrange the terms of Mr. Williams' removal to Yale College. He became a resident of Newington in 1734, and lived in the house built by the church for Mr. Williams, where he died November 13, 1753, in his sixty-eighth year.

In November, 1713, he went to Canada as interpreter to the commissioners sent there to negotiate the redemption of Eunice Williams and other captives.

In May, 1718, the Colonial Assembly made him a grant of one hundred acres of land, which he sold to Andrew Hinman, who located it on the west side of the Housatonic River. We next hear of him in a letter written by Gov. Talcott, May 28, 1728, to the General Assembly of Connecticut, in which the Governor communicates to that body the fact that Martin Kellogg had brought from Boston the important news that John Winthrop of New London had succeeded in obtaining a judgment in his favor, made by the King and Council February 13, 1727 (8), in Winthrop's suit against Thomas Lechmere (4 *Conn. Hist. Soc. Col.*, 114). The royal decree reversed the judgments of the Connecticut Courts, which had been rendered in accordance with the Colonial

¹ The clue to the fact of his coming to Wethersfield, may perhaps be found in his acquaintance with the Rev. John Williams, the minister at Deerfield, who was Kellogg's fellow captive in Canada. The Rev. Elisha Williams, afterwards the first minister of Newington, was the son of Rev. William Williams, of Hatfield, Mass., who was own cousin to the Rev. John Williams of Deerfield, and it is not improbable that in some family visit to Deerfield, the Rev. Elisha may have become acquainted with Martin Kellogg. Then, also, the Rev. Elisha Williams married, in 1714, Eunice (daughter of Thomas) Chester, of Wethersfield, and became pastor of Newington parish; and, in 1716, Martin Kellogg married Dorothy (daughter of Stephen) Chester—so that the two men married cousins.—See *Chester Genealogy*.

statute of distribution of intestate estates. Winthrop claimed to inherit all the real estate left by his father, and that his sister, who married Lechmere, was not entitled to any of it, although the Colonial statute allowed her one-third part of such estate. The King and Council decided that Winthrop was entitled to inherit all of his father's real estate by the law of England, which was paramount to the Colonial statute. (*7 Col. Rec.*, 571.)

This decision practically nullified the Connecticut statute, and if it had been regarded as settling the law, would have unsettled a great many titles, but it was never given effect outside of that particular case; and in July, 1743, in the case of Clark against Tousey, the Connecticut statute was sustained by royal decree, thus overruling the former decree. (*9 Col. Rec.*, 587, 593.) In May, 1734, upon the memorial of Elisha Williams, Martin Kellogg and others, a patent of one hundred acres of land lying west of the Housatonic was granted to them.

In October, 1738, a considerable number of strange Indians appeared in the woods near New Hartford, and as the inhabitants there could not understand their language, and knew not from whence they came, nor what was their design, they wrote to Capt. Martin Kellogg, October 24, 1738, entreating him to come and discourse with them, that the people might know whether they dwelt in safety or not, alleging that they were in such distress that they could scarcely eat or drink. Capt. Kellogg, with two assistants, immediately went there and found more than one hundred Mohawks roaming the wilderness, who had come from above the City of Albany, on a hunting expedition, with no hostile intent. This information was imparted to the inhabitants, to their great relief. This trip took six days, and the Assembly at its May session, 1739, recognized the services of the three men by appropriating £14, 14s., in payment thereof, of which Kellogg received the lion's share, £7, 10s.

At the October session of the Assembly, 1743, Rev. Elisha Williams and Capt. Martin Kellogg were deputies representing the Town of Wethersfield.

It appears from an endorsement upon one of the sermons of Rev. Simon Backus, that he preached to the young people of Newington, at Capt. Kellogg's house, November 3, 1741, the first part of the discourse, as far as to page 30, and finished it at Gamaliel Bordman's, December 3, 1741, from Hosea VI, 4 and 5, there being 55 pages in all.

On May 23, 1748, twelve Indian boys set out from Stockbridge, Mass., to go to Newington, to be under the care and tutelage of Capt. Kellogg, under the following circumstances. "Amidst all the trying

scenes of the war, efforts were not relaxed by benevolent Christians to civilize such of the Indians as they could have access to. Especially had efforts been made among the Stockbridge tribe. Owing to hostilities it was not thought advisable to set up a school at Stockbridge, although Mr. Isaac Hollis of High Wycomb, Co. Bucks, England, had made a donation for the support of twelve boys, "of heathen parents" to be educated in "letters and husbandry." It was therefore concluded to engage the boys and to send them into the settled part of the country, and thus carry out the benevolent purpose of Mr. Hollis. Accordingly, Rev. John Sergeant, the missionary at Stockbridge, engaged Captain Martin Kellogg of Newington, in Connecticut, to take and support the twelve boys, and thus carry into effect the object which had been for some time in contemplation. The boys having been selected, set out for Newington at the date above given. After they had spent a year under the direction of Captain Kellogg, they accompanied him to their former home, and a favorable report was given of their progress and civilization. Captain Kellogg was selected as their tutor and governor, as he had knowledge of the Indian language, having been twice captivated and carried a prisoner to Canada in his youth."—*French and Indian War*, p. 161, by Saml. G. Drake.

In Sheldon's *Deerfield*, it is said that these twelve boys were in Capt. Kellogg's house at Newington for three years, and that, at the time of his death, "he was employed by Mr. Isaac Hollis to support and educate at his charge, 24 Indian boys."

It appears by a memorial of his, dated May 10, 1751, addressed to the General Assembly, at its May session, 1751, at Hartford, that he went to Stockbridge, in October, 1750, and that from the 27th of that month he was "wholly devoted to the instruction of the Mohawks, who are come to him at Stockbridge; and hath accepted two-thirds of his support from the Province of Massachusetts, at the rate of £50 sterling, per annum, and no provision is made for the other third part, but he undertook, relying on the goodness of the Colony of Connecticut to supply the same" * * * "That the number of Indians of the Mohawks now with him to be instructed, together with their friends who have the care of them, is between fifty and sixty, and he daily expects more, there being a good report of their kind reception carried back to their own country." * * * That there are now at the Carrying Place (from Hudson's River to Wood Creek), a number of Caughnawagas to whom he hath sent an invitation to come in, in all which he hath acted the more freely, having the countenance of the

Assembly of the Province, and this Colony, and shall proceed to invite, and instruct them that come, as far as he shall have encouragement and supply in time to come. And further humbly proposes that it is necessary to have a good scholar there to learn the Mohawk tongue, and that one Indian and one Mohawk be educated at College, which with an English scholar, will in time to come, be under peculiar advantages to propagate knowledge and refute error among these dark nations. And further also desires to know the pleasure of this Assembly whether it will be agreeable to have Hendrick come with him to Hartford, and one more chief with him, during the sitting of this Assembly."

Upon this memorial showing "that divers of the Indians of the Six Nations attend him there, in order to be instructed in reading and the principles of the Christian faith," the Assembly, "in order to encourage and promote so good a design," authorized a committee to expend, in conjunction with Kellogg, £250 more. This is the last vote in the Colonial Records relating to Capt. Kellogg. His active life was now drawing to its close. It is fitting that this last public recognition of his services finds him acting the part of a benefactor to that race who had done so much to embitter his early life. With true missionary spirit, he thought only of supplying their material and spiritual wants, teaching the benighted Red man, the principles of that Christian faith which undoubtedly comforted his own heart when the grim messenger, which comes to all, called him to go down into the dark Valley of Death.

In 1739, the militia of the State was organized into thirteen regiments and Wethersfield was included in the sixth. A draft of one-half of the Newington muster-roll was made July 2, 1741, at one hour's warning, of six officers and twenty-three privates. They were sent in the expedition against the Spanish West Indies. Their names were: *Ensign* ROBERT WELLS; *Sergeant* CALEB ANDRUS; *Drummer*, DAVID WRIGHT; *Corporal*, JONATHAN WHAPLES; *Sergeant*, SAMUEL CHURCHILL; *Corporal*, ZEBULON ROBBINS; *Privates* SAMUEL HUNN, JONAHAN DEVERUX, THOMAS STODDARD, ZEBULON STODDARD, NATHANIEL CHURCHILL, DANIEL WILLIARD, WILLIAM ANDRUS, JUDAH WRIGHT, HENRY KIRKHAM, JOSEPH ANDRUS, JEDEDIAH ATWOOD, STEDMAN YOUNGS, ELIJAH ANDRUS, ABRAHAM WARREN, ELISHA DEMING, JANNA DEMING, BENJAMIN GOODRICH, JONATHAN BLINN, MARTIN KELLOGG, DAVID COLEMAN, THOMAS ROBBINS, CHARLES HURLBUT, JOSIAH WHITTESEY. No record remains of the military service of these men in that expedition, but the names of many of them survive in the subsequent records of the society and town.

Among the forces from Connecticut that garrisoned Louisburg after its surrender, with Rev. Simon Backus, was Capt. ELIZUR GOODRICH, of the 12th Company, who also was from Wethersfield. He was promoted Major June 3, 1745, and Lieut.-Colonel, October 29, 1745. Among the privates appear the following Newington names: THOMAS ROBBINS, ELISHA STODDARD, DAVID STODDARD, died January 13, 1746; *Corp.* JOSEPH SQUIRE, died February 7, 1746; GILES NOTT, died January 10, 1746; PHILLIP SQUIRE, BENJ. DEMING, JOSIAH BUCK, JOHN BLINN, and perhaps others. The expedition returned to New London, July 1, 1746. Thus Newington responded to the calls of duty and patriotism to Church and State to the full extent of its slender resources. It gave up ELISHA WILLIAMS to the cause of education, Rev. SIMON BACKUS to that of patriotism, it furnished in KELLOGG a religious instructor to the Mohawk Indians, and sacrificed many valuable lives in the constant wars with the French, Spanish and Indians. It grappled with nature and made the wild wilderness a fertile field, it built bridges and roads, a meeting house and schoolhouse. It so treated the Indians that no hostile encounter ever took place within its limits, on the contrary for three years it provided a school for the instruction of Indian boys in the principles of Christian faith. Its inhabitants were loyal to their convictions of right, "to God and their native land."

The Rev. JOSHUA BELDEN, *Pastor 1747-1803*.—The third minister of Newington, was born at Wethersfield, July 19, 1724, the son of Silas and Abigail (Robbins) Belden; graduated at Yale College in 1743, and began to preach in Newington, May 10, 1747, as a candidate. The society voted, June 15, 1747, to give him "a call to be our minister," and appointed a committee to treat with him "about his salary and settlement." On July 6, 1747, it was voted to give him the use of the parsonage "so long as he is our minister, and preaches the Calvinistical Doctrine, as is general at this day, preached among the Dissenters." Also to give him yearly 8 cords of wood, while single; and 16 cords "after marriage." A settlement of £1,000 was voted August 10, 1747, to be paid in three annual and equal installments, and £200 salary during the first three years. Also £57 were to be paid him in grain after his settlement, for his yearly salary, and the price of the grain so to be paid was regulated, viz.: Wheat at 4s. per bushel, rye at 2s., 8d., Indian corn at 2s., oats at 1s., 4d. The society agreed, September 7, 1747, "To choose a committee to appoint a time with him for his examination and ordination; and likewise to appoint the fast, and tavern-keepers." The committee chosen were Capt. Josiah

Willard, Capt. Martin Kellogg, and Dea. John Deming. The two important matters of "fast and tavern-keepers" were satisfactorily arranged, and the new pastor sent to the society his formal acceptance of their "invitation to engage in this important and difficult work of the gospel ministry." He stated his willingness to forego the last £100 of his settlement, lest the £1,000 might "occasion some dissatisfaction;" "desiring nothing may be done but with a ready mind, hoping for the blessing of God upon you and me in all our ways, and that we may be built up in peace and love through faith unto salvation." The ordination took place November 11, 1747, and the expenses as recorded add up £35, 2s., 6d. (\$120.30).

Mr. Belden's *Church Records*, gives the following *List of Church Members, November 11, 1747*.—"A list of the persons in full communion in ye church in Newington at ye time of my taking ye oversight of s'd church:

Dea. John Deming and his wife.
 Capt. Martin Kellogg and his wife.
 Capt. Josiah Willard and his wife.
 James Patterson and his wife.
 Eliphalet Whittlecy and his wife.
 Mr. Josiah Deming and his wife.
 Joseph Hurlbut and his wife.
 Samuel Churchill and his wife.
 David Wright and his wife.
 James Francis and his wife.
 David Churchil and his wife.
 L't. John Patterson and his wife.
 Josiah Kilborn and his wife.
 William Smith and his wife.
 Ebenezer Smith and his wife.
 Joseph Andrus and his wife.
 She propounded in Wethd.
 Joshua Andrus.
 Henry Kircum and his wife.
 William Andrus and his wife.
 Thomas Stoddard and his wife.
 Wm. Wells and his wife.
 Beavil Seymore and his wife.
 Thomas Lusk and his wife.
 John Lusk and his wife.
 She recommended from O. C. W'd. (*Old Church Wethd.*)
 Oliver Atwood and his wife.
 Both recommended from W'd. 1st church.
 David Woolcut and his wife.
 Benjamin Goodrich and his wife.
 L't. Ebenezer Kilbourn.
 Pelatiah Buck.

John Camp.
 Eliphalet Whittlecy, *Jur.*
 Joseph Hurlbut, *Jur.*
 Zebulon Goodrich.
 Daniel Kilborn.
 Timothy Goodrich.
 Jedediah Atwood.
 (Name erased here.)
 Mrs. Chester.
 Mrs. Backus.
 W'd. Camp.
 W'd. Hun.
 W'd. Hannah Deming.
 W'd. Grace Goodrich.
 W'd. Kilborn.
 W'd. Sarah Whaples.
 W'd. Sarah Whittlecy.
 Elizabeth Stoddard.
 Experience Warren.
 Jemima Kellogg.
 Mary Kellogg.
 Honor Deming.
 Hannah Andrus.
 Martha Hurlbut.
 Abigail Stoddard.
 Mary Willard.
 The wife of L't. Robert Wells.
 The wife of Caleb Andrus.
 The wife of Thomas Andrus.
 The wife of Jonathan Stoddard.
 The wife of Gamaliel Bordman.
 The wife of Daniel Willard.
 The wife of Benjah Andrus.

The wife of Elijah Andrus.
 The wife of Jacob Whapies.
 The wife of Timothy Andrus.
 The wife of George Woolcut.
 The wife of Zebulon Stoddard.

The wife of Robert Woodrough.
 Amos Ilurlbut and his wife.
 Recommended from Weathersfield, 1st
 church.
 Joseph Wright and his wife.

Some Later Admissions.—April y^e 10th, 1748, Gideon Hun, and Lydia, y^e wife of Sam^l Richards, were admitted to full communion.

Decem^r y^e 11th, 1748, Solomon Wright was admitted to full communion.

Feb^r y^e 12th, 1748-9, Sibil, y^e wife of Joshua Andrus, was admitted to full communion.

August y^e 13th, 1749, Timothy Judd and his wife, being recommended from Kensington, were accepted to communion. At y^e same time, William Lusk and his wife, recommended from y^e church in Meriden, were accepted to communion.

May y^e 20th, 1750, Anne Belding, recommended from y^e first church in Weathersfield, was accepted to communion.

Septem^r y^e 23, 1750, Thomas Richards and his wife, and Sam^l Richards, recommended from y^e church in Southington, were accepted to communion.

Jan^y y^e 27, 1751, Noah Stanley, recommended from y^e 1st church in Farmington, was accepted to communion.

Note.—The foregoing records are found in the Patterson manuscript in the Conn. Hist. Soc. rooms at Hartford, copied from the original records of Mr. Belden years ago, which are now lost.

Relief for Mr. Backus' Loss.—At the meeting held September 7, 1747, to make the final arrangements for Mr. Belden's ordination, the society also voted: "That Mr. Josiah Deming represent this society by a memorial exhibited to the General Assembly, above-said, to request some consideration for the loss of our minister, who died in their service at Cape Breton some time past." The memorial to the Assembly, at its May session, 1748, stating that Mr. Backus lost his life while engaged in the public service as Chaplain at Louisburg, and that the society was greatly burdened in paying the settlement of their new minister, secured from the Assembly a grant of £150 out of the public treasury, and this money was appropriated, in part, to pay the installment of Mr. Belden's settlement.

Mr. Belden bought of Zebulon Robbins, February 14, 1748-9, a tract of 75½ acres of land in Newington, bounded east on common land, west on highway, north on Robert Welles, and south on Richard Borden, on which tract he made his home.

A *Third General Division of Lands* was made during the winter of 1752-3, "according to the list of freehold estate given in to and made up by the listers in said Wethersfield since the 20th of August last, with the restriction that orphans and landlords should share for their estates as if put in the list in their own names" At a meeting of the proprietors held June 29, 1752, a committee consisting of Jonathan Belding, Josiah Griswold and Timothy Wright were appointed to lay out to each proprietor his part of the common and undivided land, according as the same should be first appraised by them, upon such proprietor's making his choice.

At a meeting of the proprietors held January 15, 1753, the same committee were appointed to lay out their rights in said land, to those who refused to make choice for themselves.

The committee, on appraising the land, found that £37 was a mean price per acre for the land, and accordingly laid out £37 worth of land to every pound in the list. So that he who chose land appraised at £37 per acre, had one acre to a pound in his list, and so in proportion, and he who chose land valued at more or less than £37 per acre, had less or more than an acre to a pound in his list, proportionately laid out to him. The committee by the aid of Mr. Samuel Messenger, a surveyor, laid out the lands into 29 tiers, which were divided into 436 lots, unto as many proprietors.

Loss of Beckley Quarter and Stanley Quarter.—In October, 1753, the inhabitants of Kensington, being divided in sentiment whether to continue as one society or to be divided into two or more, sent a memorial to the General Assembly, by John Hooker, and Isaac Lee, as agents, asking for a committee to be appointed to hear all parties and determine what was best, and make report to the Assembly. That body appointed Jonathan Trumbull, Shubael Conant, and Jonathan Huntington, a committee for the purpose mentioned, who gave notice to Newington, Farmington first society, Middletown first society, and Meriden to appear by their committees on the third Tuesday of April, 1754, at Kensington, "to show reasons, if they see cause, why there should not be some part of their adjoining parishes taken off from them, to be added to the parish of Kensington, to accommodate the dividing the parish of Kensington into several parishes." The Newington Society, February 18, 1754, appointed Peletiah Buck, Josiah Kilborn and Robert Welles to answer this citation and represent the society at Kensington. The society also voted at the same meeting: "That we are very loth to have our neighbors in Farmington separated from us, by reason of the smallness of y^e parish. But if it will be any ease for Ken-

sington to have a few more added, we do agree rather to have that, *provided* our meeting house comes no further west than y^e front of the lots, called the Fifty Acre Lots," or Mile-in-Breadth. This concession did not avail. The committee reported in favor of a division of Kensington into three parishes May 16, 1754.

The society then remonstrated against the acceptance of this report, and the ground of the hardship to Newington to be deprived of so many of its inhabitants. The General Assembly accepted the report, with material alterations, confirming Beckley Quarter to Kensington, in consideration of £60 to be paid to Newington in three equal annual installments on May 1, 1755-6-7, with interest from June 1, 1754, and establishing the new society of "New Briton," including the Stanley Quarter. The act provided, "That the bounds of the parish of Kensington, for the future, shall extend no further north than to an east and west line drawn across the bridge called Beach Swamp Bridge, from Wethersfield town line to Southington parish line, easterly by the ancient line of said Kensington, including those two pieces of land taken off from Wethersfield and Middletown," etc. Thus was defined the line between Kensington and Wethersfield. The new parish of New Briton was bounded "south on the north bounds of Kensington parish, easterly on Wethersfield town line, as far north as the north side of Daniel Hart's lot, where his dwelling house now stands," etc., thus defining the line between New Briton and Wethersfield. Thus Newington was shorn of a large part of her territory and inhabitants, which were permanently lost to her. New Britain has now become a city, and Beckley Quarter is a part of the society of Worthington, in the Town of Berlin.

The French War.—In the series of campaigns, extending from 1754, (though war was not actually declared against France, until May, 1756) to 1763. Newington contributed largely of men and loyal service. As it was, at that period, merely a *parish* of Wethersfield, the record of its services and the names of its hardy sons who faced the dangers and hardships of a forest warfare against the French and their Indian allies, will be found in the muster-rolls of the companies made up mostly of residents of Newington, Stanley Quarter and Farmington, under the command of Capt. ELI WHITTLESEY, Capt. (Major) JOHN PATTERSON and Lieut. (Capt.) JOHN SUMNER. Each of these officers had undoubtedly seen service in the earlier Queen Anne's and George the Second's wars; probably under the training of that veteran Indian fighter, Capt. Martin Kellogg, who had died a year before the beginning of the war, and of whom they proved to be worthy successors.

In the campaign of 1755, Capt. JOHN PATTERSON was in command of the Fifth Company of the First Regiment. His men were largely enlisted from the Towns of Wethersfield and Farmington. The following members of his company appear to be Newington men: *Sergt.* WILLIAM ANDRUS, *Corporal* NATHANIEL CHURCHILL, CALEB WOOLCOT, CALEB HURLBUT, DANIEL WRIGHT, EPHRAIM WHAPPLES, GILES KILBOURN, HENRY KIRKHAM, JOB ANDRUS, JOHN BELDING, JAMES LUSK, JOHN SQUIRE, ROGER ANDRUS.—*State Archives, War, V, Doc., 208.*

The name of ELI WHAPPLES also appears in Col. Eliphalet Dyer's Company. Doubtless other names in the various muster rolls of that campaign were those of Newington soldiers. And the same may be said of those who were engaged in the other campaigns of that war.

In the campaign of 1756, he commanded the Third (Newington) Company of the Third Regiment under Col. Nathan Whiting, at Fort William Henry. Those from Newington in his company seem to be the following:

DAVID ANDRUS, *Sergt.*, enlisted March 26, discharged Dec. 5; NATHANIEL CHURCHILL, *Clerk*, enlisted Apr. 3, discharged Oct. 30; ELIHU ANDRUS, enlisted March 30, discharged Dec. 2; ELISHA ANDRUS, enlisted Apr. 3, (died) Dec. 7; ABRAHAM HILLS, enlisted Apr. 2, discharged Oct. 20; THOMAS LUSK, enlisted March 27, discharged Nov. 30.

In October, 1756, his company at Fort William Henry consisted of thirteen officers and fifty-three privates, according to his certificate.

During the later years of this war (1760-63), Capt. Patterson was actively engaged in command of the 4th Company in the 4th Regiment, and especially in the unfortunate "Havana Expedition," in which he, as well as 39 out of his company of 73 men, lost their lives, by pestilence.—See the muster-roll on pp. 412-413. He was probably the father of Maj.-Gen. John Patterson, of Revolutionary fame.—See p. *ante*, 524.

The following names were inadvertently omitted from the end of the muster-roll of Capt. Patterson's Company at Havana, 1762, when page 413 was printed: William Andrus, March 15, deserted; Eliakim Morrills, March 15, deserted; Joseph Bunel (Bunnel ?), March 15; Dec. 5; Gideon Goffe, March 15; Dec. 5.

And Johnson Cleveland, John Gordon, Joseph Skinner, Arphenas Skinner, Benjamin Carrier, Peleg Welden (Weldon), John Moor, Jona. Handley, Abel Garnds, Jeremiah Daley—never joined.

The third of this trio of worthy officers, JOHN SUMNER, first appears

of record as a First Lieutenant of the 7th Company, in the First Regiment; but, in 1760, signs the pay-roll (see *ante*, p. 410) as *Captain*. He may have been of Stanley Quarter, or Farmington.

Capt. WHITTLESEY, son of Eliphalet, Sen., and son-in-law of Capt. Martin Kellogg, was born in 1714, and served steadily throughout the campaign of 1756-60, under Gen. Lyman, as captain of the 5th and 10th companies of the First Regiment, and the 6th in the Fourth Regiment of Colonial levies. He died in 1786, at Washington, Ct., whither he had removed from Newington, in 1772.

LEMUEL WHITTLESEY, above mentioned, was the son of Capt. Eliphalet Whittlesey, and married, November 15, 1764, Hannah Welles, the daughter of Capt. Robert Welles, the first settler of that name in Newington, and the sister of ROBERT WELLES, JR., whose name is also on the above roll. These two young men were eighteen years old in this campaign, (the age of service being then from 16 to 60,) and both became prominent in the affairs of the church and society. ROBERT WELLES, JR., became a captain.

Capt. JOHN PATTERSON, of Stanley Quarter, was probably the son of James Patterson who died in 1786.

School Districts in Berlin.—There were three School Districts in the territory which was afterwards incorporated as the Town of Berlin, which districts were duly incorporated by the General Assembly,¹ and were known as the South District, the Beckley District and the Island District. To the last two districts some territory in the present bounds of Newington was afterwards annexed, so that the history of Newington is intimately interwoven with that of these two districts. These districts were abolished in 1799, but were re-established by the School Society of Worthington with some changes in their boundaries. For a century the extension of these districts into Newington was a source of irritation and controversy.

This Beckley school district not only embraced Beckley Quarter, which had been annexed to the Great Swamp Society in October, 1715, but also a tract of land extending east of that tract for three-quarters of a mile, and running north from the Middletown line to the north end of Beckley's farm, thus including the south part of the east tier, and perhaps a quarter of a mile off of the west end of the tiers adjoining on the east. When the two societies of Kensington and New Britain were established in May, 1754, Beckley Quarter was retained by Kensington, and when Kensington was again divided into

¹ South School District.—*Col. Rec.*, XIX, 35; Beckley School District, *Col. Rec.*, XI, 79, 80; Island School District, *State Recs.*, II, 54.

the two societies of Worthington and Kensington in October, 1772, by a north and south line, Beckley Quarter was retained by the East Society of Worthington, and when the Town of Berlin was incorporated in May, 1785, it embraced Beckley Quarter, as a part of Worthington Society. The east part of the Beckley school district is now in Rocky Hill, as it embraced more territory than Beckley Quarter as originally annexed to the Great Swamp Society, in 1715.

Berlin Incorporated a Town, May, 1785.—The three ecclesiastical societies of Kensington, New Britain and Worthington, were incorporated into the Town of Berlin, by the General Assembly, at its May Session, 1785. As a part of its territory at one time belonged to Newington, as already related, it is of interest to know what the exact limits of the new town were, as defined in its act of incorporation. It states them as follows:

"That the limits and bounds of said Town shall be as follows, viz.: To begin at the North East corner of the Society of New Britain, thence Westerly and Southerly in the line of said Society until it comes to the North East corner of the town of Southington, thence in the line of Southington to Wallingford North line, thence Easterly on Wallingford North line until it comes to the town of Middletown, thence Northerly in Middletown West line until it comes to the South West corner of John Kirby's home lot, thence Easterly in the South side of said Kirby's home lot to the West side of the highway that leads to Samuel Galpin's dwelling house, thence Northerly on the West side of said highway to the road running East and West, thence Easterly in the South side of said East and West highway to the middle of Kirby's Bridge, so called, thence Northerly as the river runs to Wethersfield, thence as the Easterly and Northerly lines of that part of the Society of Worthington lying in said Wethersfield run, till they come to the East line of the Town of Farmington, thence Northerly in the East line of Farmington to the first mentioned bounds."—(3 *State Rec.*, 47-8.) It is to be noticed that this northern boundary only included so much of the territory of Wethersfield as had been formerly annexed to the ecclesiastical society of Kensington. The lines of the Beckley school district were ignored, and that part of that district not included in the former Kensington Society and located east of Beckley's farm, was not included in the Town of Berlin. That part of the Beckley school district not included in the Parish of Kensington, and lying east of Beckley's farm, was thus described in the act incorporating that district, —"viz.: a line drawn East from the North East corner of Beckley's farm three quarters of a mile, and a line drawn South from

the East end of said line to the line dividing between Wethersfield and Middletown." This particular tract was not included in the Town of Berlin, being three-quarters of a mile wide east and west, and adjoining Beckley's farm on the east, but was included in the Town of Rocky Hill, incorporated in 1843.—(IV *Pri. Laws*, 1270.)

The Second Beckley Secession. May, 1794.—A memorial, dated April 27, 1793, and signed by Theodore Beckley, Solomon Beckley, Enoch Kelsey, Richard Beckley, Luther Porter, Daniel Andrus, Aziel Belden, Hannah Beckley, Aaron Porter, Joseph Richards and David Webster, was presented to the General Assembly, at its May Session of that year, praying to be annexed to the Society of Worthington, in Berlin, "relative to Society and schooling purposes." The petition set forth at considerable length the difficulties that encompassed them. Theodore Beckley was a native of Worthington, but lived in the Stepney parish, six miles from the meeting house there, and only two miles from that of Worthington, where he attended public worship, and was a member of the church. Solomon Beckley, Luther Porter and two others lived in Wethersfield "in a corner," and were uncertain to what society they did belong. Daniel Andrus, Richard Beckley, and widow Hannah Andrus; with Aziel Belden, were under about the same difficulties, "several of their dwelling houses standing within ten, and none more than eighty rods from said Worthington parish line, and about two and half miles from the meeting house therein." Enoch Kelsey lived near the southwest corner of the Newington Society, about four miles from the meeting house there, "without any open road thereto, unless by going about six miles around, having a large family, is necessitated to attend public worship with the people of said Worthington, within about two miles of his dwelling house, whereunto is a good open highway, paying taxes there voluntarily for his privilege, and obliged also to pay a full proportion of all taxes to the said Society of Newington, annually, by his house standing *not fifteen rods from said Berlin line.*" This petition was served May, 5, 1793, upon Wethersfield First Society.

Another motive of the petitioners, not mentioned, however, in the petition, may have been to get rid of the tax for building a new meeting house in Newington, which had been so long agitated, and was bound to come sooner or later.

The Newington Society determined May 13, 1793, to oppose this petition, but their opposition was of no avail, for at its May session, 1794, the Assembly granted the prayer of the petitioners, and formally annexed to the Town of Worthington, a tract of territory which reached

north of Berlin town line about a half mile, and east from Farmington line a mile and one-half, also east of Beckley's farm so as to include the south part of the "East Tier" adjoining, to the Middletown line, as well as a contiguous part of the first and second tiers. This annexation was not to the Town of Berlin, but to the Parish of Worthington, "*for parochial purpose merely.*" The part east of Beckley's farm is now in Rocky Hill. The north and east lines of this territory in Newington are still the boundary lines between the two Ecclesiastical Societies of Newington and Worthington, and the old road under Cedar Mountain is the east line of the Newington Society, while the north and west lines thereof are coincident with the town lines.

The Worthington Society, on September 16, 1794, took action which resulted in the establishment of two school districts out of the annexed territory, viz.: Enoch Kelsey, Elisha Dunham and Abel Ellis, with their respective farms, were annexed to the Island district, and that the remainder of the new territory was annexed to the Beckley district.

Parochia or *Parish* signifies, in this act of annexation, the Ecclesiastical Society of Worthington, with territorial bounds, which had control, in 1794, of Ecclesiastical or Church affairs, which also then included school affairs. In 1795, the School Society of Worthington was carved out of the Ecclesiastical Society, with the same boundaries, by the public act of that year, relating to the avails of the Western Lands.

By the constitution of 1818, the powers of all such societies were secured to them, but if any person should choose to separate himself therefrom, he should "thereupon be no longer liable for any future expenses which may be incurred by said Society."—(*Const., Art. 7*).

The lines between the two school societies of Newington and Worthington were re-established in 1849, by the action of the two societies.

This line runs nearly east from the New Britain town line to the highway leading south from the residence of Jedediah Deming, and follows that highway south to the Berlin corner. The first fence running east and west north of the Church Street Burying Ground marks the north line of this tract. It strikes the turnpike a little south of the residence of the late Oliver Richards. Christ Church and its cemetery were located in the Worthington Society. This tract as far west as Church Street was annexed to the "Beckley" or Seventh school district of Berlin, and that part of the tract west of Church Street, comprising some 200 acres, was annexed to the "Island," or Sixth school district of Berlin, by vote of the Worthington School Society, passed 16 Sept., 1794.

As early as May, 1799, an act was passed providing: "That each school society shall have full power to divide itself into proper and necessary districts, for keeping their schools."—(*Rev. Stat.*, 1805. p. 581, Sec. 1.) Under this authority the school society of Newington, in 1835, passed a vote creating a new district, called the South East School District. The north line of said district to run an east and west course from the Southwest district, ten rods north of the house in which Reuben Whaples now lives; thence east to the Wethersfield line; and to include all the inhabitants living south of said north line, in Newington School Society.

After the school societies had become merged in the towns, the Town of Wethersfield, in which the Newington Society had been merged, at a meeting held November 4, 1856, enlarged this district by embracing in its boundaries the greater part of the former southwest district, as follows:

"Voted: That the north line of the Southeast school district of Newington shall commence on the west, at the Northwest corner of Amon Richard's home farm where it intersects with New Britain town line, and run easterly on the said Richard's north line to a highway, thence in the same direction on the line of said Amon and Oliver Richards, to the present west line of said district, including all the property south of the above described line, not included in other districts."

School societies were abolished and their powers merged in their respective towns in 1856.—(*Session Laws of 1856*, Ch. 41.) Sec. 3. of Chap. 3, of that act provided that "Every school district heretofore formed from parts of two or more towns, shall, for all school purposes, belong to the town within which the schoolhouse of said district is now situated," etc. As the schoolhouse of the Beckley district was in the Town of Berlin that district belonged wholly to Berlin for school purposes and the same was true of the Island District. But the Newington School Society was re-established in 1862.—(*5 Private Laws*, 501.) The second section of that act provided that: "Said Society shall embrace all that part of the town of Wethersfield not included in the first society." This excluded the Town of Berlin from thereafter exercising any power or authority under or by virtue of the Resolution of May 22, 1794, in that part of the old Worthington School Society which was situated within the boundaries of the new school society of Newington. But this act did not affect the boundary lines of the Beckley and Island school districts, which still embraced territory in Newington, as already defined. These separate school districts, exercising a jurisdiction in Newington, which was centrally located in

Berlin, made no little trouble to the residents of the Southeast school district of Newington, who desired to enlarge that district by the annexation of this foreign territory thereto, and thus obtain some relief from the burden of taxation which was heavy whenever any extraordinary expense, like the building of a schoolhouse, was incurred.

At a special town meeting held in Newington, February 26, 1876, the school district number seven of Berlin, known as the Beckley district, was divided: "and that the part of said district lying in this town be, and is hereby, annexed to the adjoining school district of Newington, known as the fourth or southeast district. Doubts prevailing as to the validity of this vote, it was approved by the General Assembly, and the southeast school district, since 1880, has embraced all the territory in Newington, formerly a part of the Beckley school district of Berlin. No change, however, was made in the Island district. In 1872, the Newington School Society was again abolished, and so much of the First School Society of Wethersfield as was situated within the town lines of Newington was also abolished, and both merged in the Town of Newington.—(7 *Special Laws*, 301.) In the autumn of 1898, the various school districts were consolidated, under the authority of Section 2193, of the *General Statutes*, into one district, with boundaries coincident with the town limits. Thus the whole town of Newington is now one school district.

Worthington School Districts Abolished, October, 1792.—Upon the petition of certain inhabitants of Worthington School Society, in the Town of Berlin, the three previously existing school districts of the Worthington School Society were redivided with lines somewhat changed. The Beckley district was afterwards known as the Seventh school district, and the Island district as the Sixth school district, but as the Town of Berlin has consolidated its districts, all these lines have been abolished and these districts will hereafter exist in name only, unless the town should resume the district system.

The changes and depreciation of the Continental currency during the war, led to much difficulty in the settlement of debts, contracts and salaries, and was the subject of much National and State legislation after its close.

The Newington Society records show that Mr. Belden's salary during the years 1777-1779, was adjusted by a committee appointed by the society and by Mr. Belden, who mutually agreed that he should be paid £100 in addition to what he had already received, which agreement was ratified by the society April 2, 1782.

Mr. JOSEPH CAMP and Mr. DANIEL WILLARD, JR., had taught school during the same three years, and the society also appointed a committee to settle with them what additional sum should be paid them. The society voted, November 7, 1781, £7 to Mr. Camp, and £31, 9s. to Mr. Willard to make up the deficiency due to them. The same trouble arose in the payment of the various rates or taxes and votes were passed to remedy the difficulty as far as possible.

Schools.—At a town meeting, held December 29, 1747, liberty was granted to the Parish of Newington to get eight loads of firewood for the school off of the Commons.—(II *Weth. Town Votes*, II, 146.) This gratuity was afterwards increased to ten trees for firewood. It may be presumed that these trees were of good size. The society voted, December 5, 1748, "That Thos. Robbins procure a lock for the school-house door, and be paid for it out of the Society Treasury," which shows that there was only one schoolhouse then in the society; but the school was sometimes divided and kept in different localities. This same meeting voted: "That the school be divided, to be kept three months in the Middle of the Society, six weeks at the West Side (Stanley Quarter), and six weeks at the North End." It was voted, December 4, 1749: "That the school be kept part of the time near Serg't Thomas Francis', and part of the time near Mrs. Baekus'." And December 3, 1750: "That the school shall be kept all the time in one place, near about Thomas Lusk's, [who lived next neighbor to Ephraim Whaples], near the Green at the center." On December 2, 1751, the vote was: "That the school shall be kept in this Society six months the year ensuing, the school to be kept four months and a half in the schoolhouse, and six weeks of the time in some place at the West Side of the Society." JOHN CAMP and JOSEPH HURLBUT were appointed collectors of the school rate, "raised upon the polls the year past." As JOHN CAMP, lived in the north part of the society, he collected the school rate of those who lived north of the center. The following is his school-rate for 1751:

	Polls.	£	s.	d.		Polls.	£	s.	d.
Willm. Wells,	3	1	- 13	- 0	Thomas Stoddard,	1	0	- 11	- 0
Gideon Hun,	2	1	- 2	- 0	Thomas Francis,	1	0	- 11	- 0
David Wolcot,	1	0	- 11	- 0	Amos Hurlbut,	1	0	- 11	- 0
Zebulon Stoddard,	1	0	- 11	- 0	Pelataiah Buck,	1	0	- 12	- 0
Daniel Willard,	1	0	- 12	- 0	Saml. Hun,	1	0	- 11	- 0
Joshua Andrus,	3	1	- 13	- 0					
Joseph Deming,	2	1	- 2	- 0					
Jacob Whaples,	1	0	- 11	- 0					
							10	- 9	- 0

JOSEPH HURLBUT collected the school rate south of the center. The sum of £20, 3s., 3d., had been ordered raised on "the polls of them that went to school," so that each collector collected about one-half of the sum total. On December 3, 1753, it was voted: "That the school be kept six months at the schoolhouse, and two months over the West side of the Society." As Stanley Quarter was annexed to New Britain in 1754, the words "West Side" thereafter disappear from the records. On August 3, 1756, it was voted: "That, after the present year, the school in this society shall be kept into two parts, and the one part to be kept yearly, as near the dwelling house of Daniel Willard, southwardly, as may be; the other near the dwelling house of the heirs of the Rev. Mr. Simon Backus; and that each of said schools shall be kept not less than three months, annually, by a school master; and also, that each of said schools shall have their equal part of the Country Money and Loan Money for that purpose; and that if any schoolhouse be built at said places, it shall be at the charge of particular persons, and not at the charge of this society." This vote shows that the schoolhouse at the center was no longer used. There is no further mention of it, and it had doubtless gone to ruin. The vote also proves that there were not yet seventy families in the place, as there is only a six months' school ordered, to be kept in two parts, of three months each, so that no scholar had over three months to attend school during the year. It was voted, December 1, 1757, that the school for the year ensuing should be kept six months, in two parts, one part at "the North End, at the new schoolhouse near Serg't Daniel Willard's, and the other near about Nathl. Kirkum's." So that the second schoolhouse in the parish was erected in 1757, at the North End.

It was voted, December 1, 1760: "That the school be kept the year ensuing, three months in the winter season in two places, one at the schoolhouse near Daniel Willard's, and at the South End near the Wid. Robbin's; and that the school be kept three months in the summer at three places, one at each end, and in the middle of the society, by a school dame." This is the first mention of a *school dame*, and shows an early appreciation of female teachers. Many of our best teachers since have belonged to the gentler sex. This arrangement as to localities where the schools should be kept was continued for several years. On February 15, 1764, 10s. were voted to Charles Hurlbut and Jonathan Blinn "for a house to keep the school in." And the same amount to James Blinn for the same purpose, December 1, 1764. Interest in the subject of education was growing, for December 5, 1768, it was voted: "That the school be kept the ensuing year, four months in

the winter and four months in the summer, in the same places as usual," which was an advance of two months for the year.

On December 23, 1773, it was voted: "That two schoolhouses be built by this Society by the Society's Cost," and a committee was appointed to fix the places for them. A schoolhouse is mentioned at the South End, for the first time, in the record of this meeting. One had been authorized to be built "by subscription," January 14, 1771, "near Francis Deming's home lot." This must have been the third schoolhouse in the parish. The Colonial Legislature, in October, 1766, had passed an act relating to schools, in which it was provided (12 *Col. Rec.*, 497): "That each town and society shall have full power and authority to divide themselves into proper and necessary districts for keeping their schools, and to alter and regulate the same from time to time as they shall have occasion." Under this authority, the society voted, December 8, 1774: "That the North End of the society, down as far as the North side of Deacon Joshua Andrus' common lot, to be a school district." This was the first in the parish. At the same time it was voted: "To build a schoolhouse upon the Society's cost at the South West corner of Mr. John Lusk's lot, near to Capt. Martin Kellogg's house." This was nearly in front of the present residence of Edwin Welles near the traveled path, where is now his drive-way, and was the fourth schoolhouse in the parish. At a special meeting of the district, held November 23, 1854, it was authorized to be moved to the present school yard, which was conveyed to the district by Edwin Welles. It continued the schoolhouse for the Middle district until it was sold by auction to Edwin Welles, March 24, 1883; a period of about 108 years. That summer a new brick schoolhouse was erected on the same school yard, and was formally dedicated August 11, 1883. This yard furnishes a large playground for the children.

At a society meeting held March 10, 1783, it was voted: "That the society should be divided into three school districts by a committee now to be appointed for that purpose." Capt. Gad Stanley of New Britain, Gen. Selah Hart of Kensington, and John Robbins, Esq., of Wethersfield were the committee. Their report was, April 14, 1783, approved by the society. Since that date there have been three school districts in the society, and a fourth was added in 1835, created by the school society from the South district, and called the Southeast district.

The society voted, April 29, 1783: "To build two schoolhouses upon the society's cost, the North one in the most convenient place at

or near the mouth of 'Guinea's Lane,' and the other in the most convenient place against a little piece of land granted by the town to Billy Blin," to be 25x20 feet in size. "Guinea's Lane" was named after a negro slave of that name who belonged to Dea. Josiah Willard, and upon the latter's death, March 9, 1757, became the property of his widow, Elizabeth Willard. Slavery was not finally abolished in Connecticut till the act of June 12, 1848.—(*Acts of 1848*, Ch. 79, p. 70.) It was voted, February 4, 1784, that the school at the North End should be kept "the full four months, out at Guinea's house," for which he was to be paid twelve shillings. They were soon built. On February 4, 1785, the south schoolhouse was accidentally burned. On October 29, 1787, it was voted: "To keep four months school in each schoolhouse now standing, and also near where the south schoolhouse lately stood, for the year ensuing." A new schoolhouse authorized at the South End, December 22, 1789, was soon erected, at a cost of £60. November 8, 1791, it was voted "to keep four months school at each schoolhouse or district, the year ensuing." And that was the usual style of the vote thereafter. A school committee of one from each district was yearly appointed.

In May, 1795, the General Assembly appropriated for the support of schools in the several societies of the State the moneys received from the sale of the Western Lands belonging to the State, amounting to \$1,200,000, by an act which recognized a distinct capacity in Ecclesiastical Societies, relating to the subject of schools, providing that the legal voters in such societies should annually meet in October, as school societies, to transact business "on the subject of schooling in general, and touching the moneys" appropriated to their use by the act, while the members of the several religious societies were to meet annually in December "to transact any business relating to the ministry and the public worship of God," but should "have no power to act on the subject of schooling."—(*Rev. Stat. 1808*, pp. 43, 44, 45.) Our society continued their oversight of schools till October 3, 1796, when the last votes relating to schools appear upon its records. The school society must then have been organized, and have thereafter taken the sole jurisdiction of the schools. But the record book of the school society having been lost, there is a gap in the history of our schools, which cannot be supplied.

A few memorials, however, have escaped the tooth of time, which illustrate the mode of keeping schools and employing teachers a century ago. Miss ESTHER LATIMER kept the Middle school two seasons, if not more, and her school records are given as kept by her, as follows:

Newington Middle School, 1796.

<i>Parents.</i>	<i>Scholars.</i>	<i>Attendance.</i>
Mr. Elijah Welles,	William Kirkham,	8 weeks.
	Jonathan Kirkham,	13 weeks.
	Rachel Welles,	13 weeks.
	Ann Welles,	13 weeks.
	Cynthia Welles,	12 weeks.
Mr. James Welles,	Aaron Lusk,	10 weeks.
	Mary Welles,	13 weeks.
	Cefrona Welles,	11 weeks.
	Gaylor Welles,	11 weeks.
Mr. Reuben Whaples,	Hannah Whaples,	13 weeks.
	Harden Whaples,	10 weeks.
Mr. Fitch Andrus,	Anson Whaples,	2 weeks.
	Lucy Andrus,	13 weeks.
Mrs. Jemima Welles,	Polly Welles,	13 weeks.
	Roger Welles,	13 weeks.
	Charlotte Welles,	13 weeks.
Mr. Roger Francis,	Charles Francis,	13 weeks.
Mr. Justus Francis,	Harvey Francis,	13 weeks.
Mr. Robert Welles,	Abigail Welles,	4 weeks.
Mr. Absalom Welles,	Laurey Welles,	4 weeks.

Newington Middle School, 1802.

<i>Scholars.</i>	<i>Attend. Weeks.</i>	<i>Scholars.</i>	<i>Attend. Weeks.</i>
Charlotte Welles,	16.	Betsey Kilbourn,	16.
Sally Welles,	16.	Prudence Howard,	5.
Amanda Kelsey,	13.	Jennet Kirkham,	13.
Joseph Kelsey,	7.	Anson Andrus,	2.
Lemuel Hurlbut,	4.	Ira Andrus,	9.
Betsy Hurlbut,	6.	Martin Beebe,	14.
Norman Francis,	2.	Sophia Lattimer,	15.
Alfred Francis,	15.	Polly Hurlbut,	7.
Cyrus Francis,	2.	Sally Loomis,	13.
Electa Kellogg,	13.	Harry Loomis,	12.
Sibbel Andrus,	15.	Bekda Calkins,	8.
Polly Holmes,	6.	Ebenezer Calkins,	9.
Sabra Kilbourn,	8.	Harry Calkins,	13.
Sally Kilbourn,	14.	Belle Kellogg,	4.

Esther Latimer was the daughter of Luther Latimer. She died December 14, 1854, aged 83. It is probable that these two school records represent summer schools, and that winter schools were usually taught by male teachers. The following subscription paper illustrates the method of employing female teachers for summer schools.

“Wethersfield, Newington Society, June 2d, 1800.

“We, the subscribers, for the purpose of having a school set up and kept in the Middle School House in the Society aforesaid, to begin the

first week in June instant, and continue four months, kept by a woman, at the price of seven shillings per week, do hereby agree and promise to pay our proportionable part of the cost of said school, according to the number of children we shall send, and the time they attend; the account of the children's attendance to be kept by the schoolmistress; and do agree to meet on Tuesday evening of the present week at said schoolhouse, to appoint one or more of the subscribers to agree and contract in the name and behalf of us, the subscribers, with a woman to keep said school, and at the close of said school to adjust the said school accounts, and make out each subscriber's part thereof, and receive and collect the same, and pay over to the said schoolmistress. Witness our hands:

John Kirkham.
Edward Howard.
Jemima Welles.
Joseph Kellsey.
Harry Brown.

Lemuel Holmes.
Simon Kilbourn.
William Barnes.
Mabel Robbins.
Samuel Loomis.

Roger Francis.
Martin Kellogg.
Justus Francis."

Church Music.—At its annual meeting, December 3, 1781, the society voted to "do something towards the reviving of singing amongst us," and appropriated £6 "towards defraying the cost of hiring a singing master." That Daniel Willard, Jun., and James Wells were a committee "to procure and hire a singing master, and to apply the abovesaid money."

A further appropriation, March 5, 1782, of 25s. "out of the £35 voted to the schools in our last annual meeting, was made towards defraying the charge of singing in this place; the singing committee to apply the same."

The result of this action was evidently favorable, for on May 3, 1784, it was voted: "To appropriate £4 of the Loan Money, or other monies that may be had towards hiring a teacher to instruct the people in this parish in the art of singing." The "Loan Money" was the avails of the sale of certain lands in the western part of the State, granted by the Legislature for the support of schools, at the May session, 1741.—(8 *Col. Rec.*, 388.) And that Daniel Willard, Jun., Justus Francis, James Welles, David Lowrey and Amos A. Webster were the committee "to hire the aforesaid teacher." It may be presumed that these men were the prominent singers in the society, and most interested in the movement to "revive" the singing. This seems apparent from a vote passed December 19, 1785: "That ELIZUR ANDRUS should be a chorister, in addition to those already in that office, to assist them in singing." As this is the first mention of a chorister,

"those already in that office" must refer to the singing committee above appointed. An addition to these choristers was made December 7, 1789, when "Messrs. LEVI WELLES and JOHN KIRKHAM were appointed choristers, in addition to those now in said office." December 5, 1791, £4 were voted to a committee, "to engage Mr. WILLIAM KILBORN to instruct a singing school in this Society." Elizur Andrus and Simon Welles were the committee. There was further appropriated March 13, 1792, "16s. to Mr. William Kilbourn, in addition to what was before voted, for the encouragement of singing." On January 5, 1795, it was voted: "That this Society will raise £4 for the encouragement of religious psalmody in this place." "That Messrs. Levi Lusk, Ashbel Seymour, Justus Francis and Elijah Welles be a committee to receive and apply the same to the aforesaid purpose, according to the best of their discretion." The controversy over the site of the new meeting house was now engrossing the attention of all minds, and it would appear that the above mentioned committee did not expend the appropriation made to them, for on December 3, 1798, there was voted: "\$20, including the £4 heretofore voted, to revive the singing in this place." "That Messrs. Levi Welles, John Kirkham, Amos A. Webster, Justus Francis and Daniel Willard, Jun., be a committee to hire a teacher, and appropriate the said sum of \$20." After the new meeting house was finished and occupied, it was considered appropriate to further improve the service of praise, and there were votes passed, December 21, 1801, as follows: "That this society will do something to encourage the singing in this society." "Voted. To raise \$15 on the list of this society, to encourage the choristers to teach and encourage the singing; and to be disposed of by a committee," consisting of Messrs. Justus Francis and Levi Lusk. These were the last votes on the subject during Mr. Belden's ministry. One more vote, however, occurs before the ordination of Mr. Bracc, passed December 17, 1804: "That this Society raise ten dollars to support the singing in this Society, and that the choristers be appointed to lay out the money to the best advantage."

Such is the official record of our society during its formative period, on the praise service of the church. Its attitude was always friendly to the improvement of this part of the public worship. There is no record of any dissension between the old and modern schools of church singing, as occurred in some congregations. The fathers could contend about the sites of the meeting houses, but when inside of them for divine worship, they praised God with one heart and one soul, lifting up their voices with "Old Hundred," "Mear," "Dundee," "China,"

"Wells," "Windsor," "Rochester," and others, and then listened to long sermons and prayers from their spiritual guides, unfolding the future happiness of the elect, and the dire doom of those finally impenitent.

Newington in the Revolutionary War.—[Mr. Welles had prepared a very full and interesting chapter on this period of Newington's history; but it was felt necessary and more in accordance with the general plan of this Wethersfield history, that the military history of the several parishes (as Newington then was) should be embraced, within one chapter devoted to the subject of the American Revolution. In doing this, however, we can assure our readers that great care has been taken by the editor to incorporate in that chapter every item of interest concerning Newington's share in that period of our National history.

The people of Newington fully shared in the patriotic feeling, which pervaded the country during this exciting period. In the Lexington Alarm party of 115 men, who under the command of Capt. John Chester, rendezvoused at Wethersfield church on the 20 of Apl., 1775, preparatory to their hurried march towards the scene of battle, were many Newington men, some of them old veterans of Queen Anne's and the Old French wars, and some younger, but not a whit less ready for the fray. Their names (as far as can be ascertained) will be found—with the letter *N*, affixed in the list of that valiant company of volunteers, in Chapter XI of our first volume; as well as other lists in that chapter.—EDITOR.]

A Main Highway through the Parish.—At the November term of the County Court, 1790, on a memorial presented by the selectmen of Hartford and Wethersfield, a public highway was authorized to be laid out under the west side of Cedar Mountain, running from the southeast corner of Atwood's home-lot, to the Hartford line.

Controversy over the Site of the Second Meeting House.—By more than a two-thirds majority, the society voted, 20 Dec., 1784: "To build a new meeting house for divine worship." Application was duly made to the County Court and a committee of that body (Roger Newbury, Jesse Root and Selah Hart) reported favorably to a site near Luther Latimer's house, on Back Lane, southwest of the Center mill pond, on the east front of the "West Lots." The Society promptly disapproved. A second application, October, 1785, resulted in the selection by the Court's Committee of Blinn's Hill, in the fields southwest of the present parsonage, inaccessible by any road. Rejected. On a third application, the Court's representatives "pitched a stake" for

the site, in James Lusk's lot, about where Mr. Edwin Welles' present house now is—and this decision was approved, Apl., 1788, by a vote of 40 yeas to 33 nays. Still, unanimity of approval was not secured and nothing was done in the matter until July, 1791, when Capt. Martin Kellogg brought matters to a focus by offering £90 towards the frame of a meeting house if it should be erected on the west side of the Old Green, about 5 rods southward of the southeast corner of the burying ground; and, though Lieut. Lemuel Whittelsey promptly met this proposition with an offer of £100 toward building near Luther Latimer's—the first site selected by the Court's committee—the society closed in with Capt. Kellogg's offer. Application being immediately made to the County Court to establish this site—and two of the three judges appointed concurring in the Latimer site, their judgment was affirmed by the Court in an imperative order, January, 1792, to build at that place. But the society again disapproved and voted, March, 1792, to apply to the May session of the General Assembly. Their memorial, drawn up by Esq. Chauncey Goodrich (later a member of the U. S. Congress), and presented to the legislature by David Lowrey and Roger Welles, "showeth, that their old meeting house, for years past being decayed and altogether unfit to repair or meet in, said society agree to build a new one. That various committees have been appointed and as many attempts made, to affix a place whereon to erect said meeting house, none of which have resulted in such a union of sentiment among the said inhabitants that they could proceed to build said house; to the great grief and discouragement of more than two-thirds of said inhabitants, both in interest and numbers. That the place most agreeable to said inhabitants, and in which more than two-thirds have united, is at the southeast corner of the public burying ground, near the common military parade in said society. That this is the most central spot for roads, and the number of inhabitants, who are principally settled upon the north and northeast parts of said society. The south and southwestern part of said society being either low, moist, pasture land and incapable of settling upon in any great degree, or land reserved for wood and timber.

"That, should said place for said building be established at said corner of said burying ground, said society would be consequently entitled to a donation from an estate of Capt. Martin Kellogg, late of said society, deceased, to the amount of £90, and also of £60, lawful money, in addition thereto, as a free gift, towards forwarding said building, and of which said society, who are but small, and not opulent, stand in much need.

"That said society are in some measure embarrassed in their Proceedings by the Influence of our Resident Proprietors, who own considerable tracts of land in said society, towards the southern part, and wish to draw the house into that quarter, with a view to enhance the value of their said lands.

"That a large majority, more than two-thirds of said society, feel themselves aggrieved by the establishment of said place near to said Latimer's house, and are disinclined to proceeding to build said house, as by their votes and acts in society meeting, ready to be laid before your Honors, will appear. And the former happy agreement and harmony of said society, in their parochial connections, is greatly disturbed and threatened."

The memorialists, asked, therefore, that the Legislature establish and affix the aforesaid place at the southeast corner of said burying ground for building said meeting house upon.

At the next session of the General Assembly, held in October, 1792, the petition was so far granted that a committee of three was appointed, to proceed to view said society and hear all parties concerned, and affix the most suitable and proper place whereon to erect said meeting house, and report to the Assembly. The committee, on 29th October, 1792, visited Newington, "and viewed the various parts thereof, and nearly every house within the same, and fully heard all parties," and reported that they were "unanimously of the opinion, that at a stake by us set about six rods southeast from the public burying ground, in said society, is the most proper place whereon to erect the meeting house."

This report was accepted by the General Assembly, who passed a resolution to carry it into effect, which simply authorized the society to erect a meeting house at that place, thus overruling the decision of the County Court, which ordered the erection at Luther Latimer's. At a society meeting held Dec. 31, 1792, this resolution of the Assembly was approved by a vote of 39 to 3. This vote shows that the aggrieved party did not attend the meeting. The victors were disposed to be magnanimous and made renewed attempts to reconcile the opposing interests. At a meeting held Jan. 9, 1794, the society voted to cast lots between the three sites, near Luther Latimer's, on Blinn's Hill, and on the Old Green, doubtless upon the principle that "the lot is cast into the lap, but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord."—(*Prov. XVI, 33.*) The lot fell upon Blinn's Hill. The meeting piously accepted this disposition of the vexed question, and voted to build upon that eminence. The meeting was adjourned to meet on the next afternoon, in the open air, on Blinn's Hill, itself, when the precise spot

The first meeting of the new society was held Nov. 13, 1797, at the house of Elizur Deming, when Selah Beckley was chosen clerk, and John Goodrich, Daniel Ludington, David Steel, and Jonathan Gilbert, Jr., were chosen "a committee to order the necessary business for said society the year ensuing." At a second meeting held Dec. 7, 1797, it was voted to build a church where the stake had been set, fifty feet long and forty feet wide, with a steeple. Thus the two churches were being erected at the same time. It was voted April 19, 1798, to "hire Mr. Seth Hart to preach every fourth Sabbath the year ensuing." The following year he was to preach half the time.

The name of *Christ Church* first appears in the record of a meeting held March 25, 1799, and on July 1, 1799, it was voted: "That this society do approve and adopt the constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Connecticut, as formed in convention at New Haven, June 6th, 1792." Taxes were laid from 2 to 8 cents on the dollar from year to year. On Dec. 3, 1801, Mr. James Kilborn was employed to perform divine service one-half the time, at a salary of £50. The society voted April 19, 1802: "That Selah Beckley, Benjamin Slater and Nathaniel Dickenson be a committee to view the ground Mr. JOHN GOODRICH 3d proposes to give for a glebe and burying ground, and make report to the next meeting." This proposed gift was undoubtedly accepted, and became the little graveyard which is now the only memorial of Christ Church visible to the passing traveler. Jonathan Gilbert was appointed warden of the parish April 18, 1808. Meetings were regularly held and recorded till April 23, 1810, when the record closes. The active life of the church was only 13 years. The church edifice was sold Nov. 17, 1826, to Jabesh Dickinson for \$115. The avails of the sale are said to have been turned over to the Episcopal church in New Britain. The causes of the failure of Christ Church are not far to seek. Its members were few and its taxes heavy. Preaching was intermittent, and it does not appear that there was ever a settled clergyman in the parish. When time had softened the disaffection of those who had left the church of their fathers, they returned to their first love, and left Christ Church practically disorganized, and it dissolved "like the baseless fabric of a vision." The little sequestered burial ground by the wayside, with neither church nor dwelling near, with mute eloquence appeals to our hearts, as eminently fit "to point a moral or adorn a tale." If the lives of its tenants were passed amid contention and strife, their graves rest in loneliness and peace.

The Second Meeting House.—The precise location of the second meeting house was determined by a vote passed Aug. 7, 1797: "That

the North West corner of the meeting house be set at a stake now set on the Green, and that the sills be ranged due North and South, East and West, with the Porch or Steeple at the East end." It was also voted: "That the Building Committee be impowered to take as many of the stones from under the old meeting house as can be spared without endangering the house, and that said stone be applied to the new house, if needed." This was done during the same month of August, for on Aug. 28th, the committee were directed "to proceed to erect and finish a meeting house at the stake set by the Assembly's Committee, where the foundation is now laid." The frame was now erected and undoubtedly covered for on Dec. 8, 1797, the society voted: "To the following persons, the sums annexed to their respective names, for labor and materials, etc., for the meeting house, viz.:

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
"To Joseph Camp,	2	0	6	Elisha Stoddard,	1	13	6
John Wright,	0	6	0	Josiah Griswold,	0	11	0
Levi Wells,	1	6	0	James Welles,	0	3	6
Michael Wright,	0	10	8	James Welles, Junr.,	0	15	0
Simon Welles,	2	5	0	James Blinn,	1	10	0
Fitch Andrus,	2	12	0	John Kirkham,	1	8	0
David Lowrey,	3	8	1	Ezekiel Atwood,	0	11	0
Ashbel Seymour,	1	14	10	Gad Deming,	0	4	0
Elias Saymour,	0	14	9	Levi Deming,	0	4	0
Jemima Welles	0	18	0	Enos Hunn,	0	6	0
Mary Kellogg,	1	1	0	Jonathan Stoddard,	2	9	6
Simon Kilborn,	1	6	9	Samuel Churchill,	1	15	0
Uzziel Lattimer,	2	13	9	Levi Churchill,	0	6	0
Joseph Churchill,	0	18	0	Justus Francis,	0	7	0
Eli Whaples,	0	15	0	Daniel Willard, Junr.	0	1	6
Francis Deming,	2	8	0	Solomon Churchill,	0	4	0
Amos Andrus,	5	4	8	Roswell Fox,	0	12	0
Joshua Belden, Junr.	4	7	9	Robert Francis,	1	4	0
Elijah Welles,	12	4	0	For the Steeple,	2	7	0
Martin Kellogg,	8	5	2				
				Total	72	11	11

There are 38 names in the above list, and a few of them are on the list of contributors to Christ Church already given. But none of them were ever identified in any manner with Christ Church, so far as appears by its records. Other members of the Newington Society are on neither list. It appears by a vote passed Feb. 12, 1798, that it took ELIZUR ANDRUS and three hands three days to "raise" the meeting house. It was voted, Aug. 30, 1798: "To proceed to finish the lower part of the meeting house now erecting, with the breast work of the gallery, as soon as may be, lathing and plastering excepted." On Oct. 15, 1798, it was voted: "To build pews in all the lower part of the

meeting house, instead of seats." And "that there be twenty pews in the square body of said house." On Nov. 12, 1798, it was voted: "To sell and dispose of the old meeting house in this society, and apply the avails of it towards defraying the charges of the new meeting house now building." Services must have been held in the new meeting house, although not finished, after the old one had been sold. An appropriation for sweeping the meeting house was made Dec. 3, 1798, for "the year ensuing." It was voted March 31, 1800: "That the Society Committee seat the meeting house and number the pews." The society voted March 23, 1801, to paint the meeting house, and on Feb. 7, 1803, laid a tax of "two cents and two mills on the dollar," to be laid on the list of 1802, to pay the Society's debts due towards building the meeting house."

Mr. Belden's Resignation.—Mr. Belden, having now seen the new meeting house finished and paid for, and being 79 years of age, and feeling unable to further perform the public labors of the ministry, made known his desire to desist therefrom, and preached for the last time November 6, 1803, after an active service of fifty-six years. In May, 1808, he removed to the house of his son Joshua, where he died July 23, 1813, at the age of 89 years. He prepared a charge to be delivered Jan. 16, 1805, at the ordination of Rev. Joab Brace, as colleague pastor. The words of advice therein given to his youthful associate are perhaps the best portrayal of his own conduct and preaching as a minister. "Let Christ and him crucified, the fallen, undone state of man and the way of the sinner's recovery and salvation through a Redeemer, and by the grace of the Holy Spirit, be the leading subjects of your preaching. Teach no other doctrine but what ministereth to godly edifying, not handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth as it is in Jesus, commend thyself to every man's conscience in the sight of God, not shunning to declare the whole counsel of God." "Let unfeigned love to Christ, zeal for his honor, and a compassionate concern for the salvation of immortal souls, be the governing principles of your whole conduct as a minister of Jesus." Surely these should be the governing principles of every true ambassador of Christ.

The three pastorates of Mr. Williams, Mr. Backus and Mr. Belden represent the formative period of the parish, and a stormy period it was. Controversy and contention over the two meeting houses, and over the boundaries of the parish continued almost from first to last. The French and Indian War, and the Revolutionary War made heavy drafts upon old Connecticut. Newington sent both officers and privates into

the battalions of the Commonwealth. Mr. Belden admitted to the communion of the church 169 members, and to the half-way covenant, 159 persons; but this practice was discontinued in 1775, as unauthorized by Scripture. The baptisms were 622; marriages, 336, and deaths, 443. Deacons were chosen as follows: JOSIAH WILLARD was appointed the third deacon, to succeed Dea. JABEZ WHITTLESEY, who removed to Bethlem in 1744. Dea. Willard died March 9, 1757. JOSHUA ANDRUS was elected April 20, 1757, died April 25, 1786. JOHN CAMP was chosen July 2, 1761, to succeed Dea. JOHN DEMING, who died May 1, 1761. Dea. Camp died July 27, 1782, and was succeeded by Dea. ELISHA STODDARD, who was elected Aug. 14, 1782, and died July 2, 1790. CHARLES CHURCHILL succeeded Dea. Andrus, Aug. 31, 1786, and died Oct. 29, 1802. JAMES WELLS was chosen the successor of Dea. Stoddard, Aug. 5, 1790, and resigned Oct. 29, 1818. DANIEL WILLARD succeeded Dea. Churchill, Feb. 24, 1803, and died Jan. 16, 1817. The deacons have always been chosen for life.

The Temporary Supply of the Pulpit.—In the interval between Nov. 6, 1803, and Oct. 7, 1804, when the Rev. Joab Brace began to preach, the pulpit was occupied temporarily by Rev. Elisha Yale, and Rev. Aaron Cleveland. Mr. Yale must have supplied the pulpit the first part of the interval above mentioned, and Mr. Cleveland the last part. At the ordination of Mr. Brace, Jan. 16, 1805, Mr. Cleveland was present as a member of the ordaining council. He had a son William, born Dec. 20, 1770, and he had a son, Richard Falley Cleveland, who graduated at Yale in 1824, and was the father of President Grover Cleveland. In the Hartford "*Courant*" for July 18, 1804, is an account of a fourth of July celebration in Newington, in which Mr. Cleveland took a prominent part. It is as follows:

"Wethersfield, Society of Newington, July 7, 1804.

"The anniversary of American Independence was celebrated in this place under the presidency of Colonel LEVI LUSK and Captain AB-SALOM WELLES. Captain ROBERT FRANCIS, with his military company in uniform, attended on the occasion. At 2 o'clock p. m., the inhabitants assembled at the meeting house, where social prayer and praise were performed, and a sermon suitable to the occasion was delivered by the Rev. AARON CLEVELAND from Mark III. 24: 'If a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.' The sermon being over, the Sons of Liberty marched in procession, Captain Francis and company in front, to the house of Mrs. Blin, where a handsome dinner was provided. After a temperate regalement, a num-



I am very kindly & affectionately
Yours
Grace

ber of patriotic toasts were drank, with the discharge of musquetry. Their dispersion at 6 o'clock witnessed their decorum and good order."

We can well believe that the minister attended the "regalement," and drank to the toasts with the others, and that they all dispersed with "decorum and good order," for those days, and that he afterwards wrote this account for the *Courant*. What might be regarded as a "temperate regalement" on such a patriotic occasion at that time, when every town had its distilleries of cider brandy, might be very differently regarded now. But they should be judged by the standard of that day, as to "decorum and good order," and the church records of cases of discipline for intemperance show what that standard was before the temperance reform was inaugurated.

The *fourth minister* of the Congregational church in Newington was the Rev. JOAB BRACE, D. D. He was the son of Zenas and Mary (*Skinner*) Brace of West Hartford, born June 13, 1781: he graduated at Yale College, 1804, in a class distinguished for its great men, among whom may be mentioned John C. Calhoun, John Pierpont, Royal R. Hinman and Prof. Bennet Tyler. In 1808, he received the degree of Master of Arts, and in 1854, from Williams College, that of Doctor of Divinity. He was licensed to preach Sept. 24, 1804, and preached his first sermon at Newington, Oct., 7, 1804, and continued to preach there till his ordination January 16, 1805, having pursued his theological studies during his academic course. He married January 21, 1805, Lucy Collins of West Hartford.—See *Brace*, Vol. II.

From the date of his ordination, Dr. Brace continued in the active duties of pastor over the same church for just fifty years, when he voluntarily resigned lest he should become a burden to his people by outstaying his usefulness. He preached his farewell sermon January 16, 1855, and laid down the harness which he had worn for half a century. This sermon, printed by vote of the society, is an interesting review of his life work. He died April 20, 1861, at Pittsfield, Mass., æ. 80, at the residence of his son-in-law, Rev. Dr. John Todd, who preached his funeral sermon at Newington, April 24, 1861, where he was buried, at his own request, by the side of his wife, who died Nov. 16, 1854, aged 72.

The active pastorates of Dr. Brace and Rev. Joshua Belden cover a period of one hundred and six years and their united ages one hundred and sixty-nine years. It may be doubted that the annals of our New England churches furnish another instance of a parish with two

successive pastorates of such length. The mortal remains of these two pastors fitly rest among those of their parishoners, who in life received their faithful and loving services for so many years.

At the commencement of the ministry of Dr. Brace the church numbered 51 members, at its close 170. He admitted to the church 231, baptized 401, buried 453, and married 257 couples.

He always felt a deep interest in the spiritual welfare of the young people. A Sunday school was established by a few of the church members in 1819, and has ever since continued. The union of neighboring Sunday schools was established here in 1832. He had for many years a weekly meeting in the church for the instruction of the youth of both sexes, in a kind of Bible Class, expounding the New Testament in regular course, requesting each one present to read a verse and asking the reader questions upon it, going around the circle at least once at each meeting. His salary was never over \$500 a year, with no vacation. He supplied the deficiency of his salary by keeping a private school in which he fitted boys for college. He also tilled his own farm, and his garden was the model in the place. He was a respectable scholar in the Latin, Greek and Hebrew languages, the latter of which he acquired after he was 45 years of age. In personal appearance he was tall and commanding, eyes dark and piercing, benignant features, venerable and dignified in his later days, with manners simple and unaffected. He was a "living epistle" of goodness and righteousness, "known and read of all men." So devoted was he to his high calling and so great was his affection to his people that, in his farewell discourse, he said to them: "Now, my people, if you should rise up in a body here today, and propose this one question to me, viz.: "If we should all go back to our youth again, would you, with all your experience, come and be our minister again?" What would I say? If I were to go back and begin my life anew, I would choose the Christian ministry for my work, and for the joy of my life. Lord Jesus, accept me. 'Would I come and be a minister of Newington, again?' *Yes, yes, my brethren, I think I can say that I would, and spend the half-century with you.*" On the part of the people it may be added that they regarded him as their father in spiritual things, and called him by the dear name of "Father Brace," and those who had sat under his preaching the longest, and knew him best, loved him most, and would the most readily have taken him back to their hearts again for another half-century. It has been truly said that:

"Grateful Newingtonians will cherish and maintain

The name and fame of *Father Brace* while memory doth remain."

On Oct. 27, 1850, he communicated his intention to resign Dec. 1, 1851, as he then would be seventy years of age, but the society voted, Nov. 5, 1851, that he be requested to remain until he should have completed the term of fifty years of pastoral service, and he acceded to this wish of his people.

Dr. Brace's Ordination.—The usual fast previous to the ordination of Dr. Brace was observed Jan. 9, 1805, when Rev. Joseph Washburn of Farmington preached the sermon, on the text: "Brethren, pray for us."

The Members of the Church, January 16, 1805.—Eunice Wolcott, James and Abigail Wells, Martha Wells, Elijah Wells, Hannah Kellogg, Robert and Abigail Wells, Daniel Willard, Levi and Martha Hurlbut, Mercy Churchill, Elizabeth Romans, Jemima (Kellogg) Wells, Justus and Lois Francis, Tabitha Andrus, Mabel Webster, Dorothy Stoddard, Octavia Belden, Abel and Rhoda Andrus, Sarah Rockwell, Elizabeth Seymour, Jerusha Seymour, Mary Atwood, Anne Deming, Abigail Griswold, Alma Wells, Honor Blinn, Lucy Wells, Hannah Andrus, Clara Wells, Mary Kellogg, Anna Camp, Levi Deming, Ashbel Seymour, Mary Lowrey, Jemima Kellogg, Joshua and Dorothy Belden, Francis Coslet, Oledine Andrus, Eunice Seymour, David and Lucy Lowrey, Roger Hurlbut, Lydia Andrus, Esther Lattimer, Anna Andrus, Lois Andrus. Fifty-one in all, of whom thirteen only were males, and thirty-eight females.

Deacons of the church, during the ministry of Dr. Brace, were: Dea. LEVI DEMING, chosen Oct. 29, 1818, and died Jan. 1, 1847; Dea. ORIGEN WELLS, chosen Oct. 29, 1818, and resigned Nov. 29, 1847. One of these two deacons filled the vacancy made by the death of Dea. Daniel Willard, and the other the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Dea. James Wells. Dea. JEDEDIAH DEMING was chosen July 1, 1847, to succeed Dea. Levi Deming; he died May 4, 1868. Dea. JEREMIAH SEYMOUR was chosen Nov. 29, 1847, to succeed Dea. Origen Welles, he died April 1, 1867.

The Academy.—During Dr. Brace's ministry, schools were kept regularly in the several districts. On Aug. 6, 1832, the Middle school-house was struck by lightning, but not greatly injured. School-dames were employed more and more as the years rolled on. Miss ANNA WELLES was a teacher in the Middle district for many years. In the meantime there was a growing desire for a school of a higher order, on the part of those who were able and willing to give their children a better education than the common schools afforded. At a meeting of

those friendly to the project, held January 6, 1829, the constitution of "The Newington Education Society" was adopted. The sum of five dollars constituted a share. Nearly \$300 was subscribed by 25 persons. At a meeting held Nov. 6, 1829, it was agreed to build an Academy near the residence of Mrs. Mary Kellogg (afterwards the dwelling house of Dea. H. A. Whittelsey), across the street running east and west, and southeast of said dwelling house. Martin Kellogg, Jeremiah Seymour and Dositheus Hubbard were the building committee. The Academy was raised Nov. 21, and finished January 2, 1830, and the first school was held therein two days thereafter. The first officers of this Education Society were Gen. Martin Kellogg, *chairman*; William Deming, *clerk*; Dositheus Hubbard, *treasurer*; Daniel Willard, Joseph Camp and Roger Welles, *trustees*. A school was kept there for a quarter of a century, and was the means of giving a higher education to many who would otherwise have finished their studies at the common schools. The teachers were MESSRS. FOSTER, COGLEY, EMERSON, WARNER, HOYT, GILLET, MARVIN, WALES, KILBOURN, SANFORD J. HORTON (1841-2), FISHER, SESSIONS, RIPLEY, LINSLEY, ATWOOD and WELLES. As the enterprise was a private one, and largely for the better education of the children of those who were its promoters, when that object was accomplished the school was no longer sustained, and even the building has disappeared. The last meeting of the company was held in November, 1854.

Changes in the Second Meeting House.—After Mr. Brace's ordination, few changes were made for the first few years. Necessary repairs, painting, etc., etc., seem to have been the only expenses and these (at rate of one cent on the dollar) were paid by taxes laid on the grand list of the inhabitants, which system of raising money, however, was changed in November, 1819. It was believed by some "that coercive measures in matters of religion are not warranted by scriptural precepts." The pews were sold for one year for the first time at a meeting held Nov. 23, 1819, and that practice has since obtained. It would seem that not enough money was raised by this method the first year, and a committee was appointed Nov. 6, 1820, "to converse with Mr. Brace, and see if he will be willing to relinquish a part of his salary." He acceded to this request and agreed to relinquish fifty dollars of his salary for the next year. As no further action of this kind appears of record, it is to be presumed that the money was afterwards raised without calling on the pastor for assistance. The first *church bell* was put into position Feb. 9, 1828. It weighed 506 pounds, and cost 40

cents a pound, or \$202.40, being brought from Albany, N. Y., by Mr. Roger Welles in his own team. At a meeting held Nov. 2, 1828, the bell was directed to be rung not only on the Sabbath, but on week days at 12 o'clock noon, and at 9 in the evening. The first allusion to a *stove* in the church occurs in the record of a meeting held Nov. 24, 1829, when the committee were "directed to procure sheet iron suitable to secure the floor under the stove from fire."

At a meeting held April 5, 1837, a committee of three was appointed "to draw a plan of such alterations for the meeting house, and report at the next meeting." At a meeting held a week later it was voted: "That the committee was directed to apply the sum of \$800, now raised by subscriptions, and whatever more may hereafter be raised to the making of said alterations." Oliver Brainard to make the repairs at a cost of \$832.86.

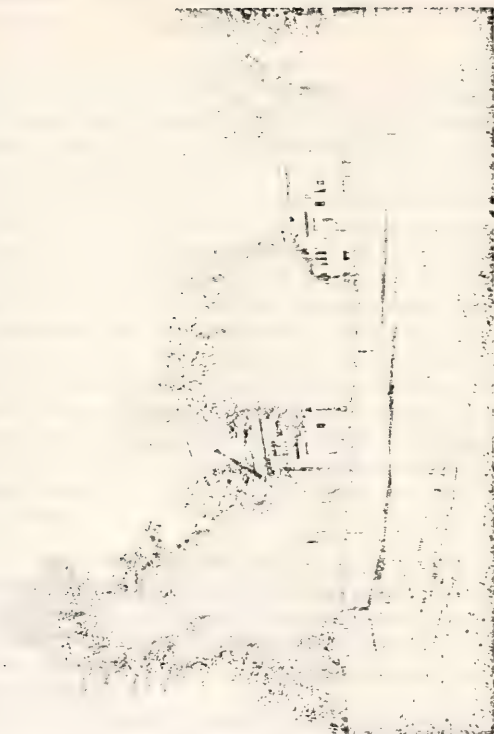
Among these repairs were the following: The square pews were replaced by slips. The tall spire that stood upon eight posts was taken down, Aug. 4, 1837, and the open bell-deck covered by an additional story. The two outside doors were closed on each side of the tower style, and new posts put under the galleries. The gallery stairs were lowered and lessened in width, and supplied with new seats. In place of the high pulpit was built a lower one in more modern style, and new posts put under the galleries. The gallery stairs were taken out of the porch and rebuilt in the corners of the audience room, a part of which was taken into the vestibule, for that purpose. The seat in front of the pulpit, occupied by the deacons at communion service, was removed, with the hinged shelf in front, used for the memorial bread and wine. The church was formally re-dedicated, Aug. 23, 1837. Dr. Brace preached in the forenoon from Haggai II, 9: "The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of Hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of Hosts." There were many in the audience whose memories easily spanned the forty years that had intervened since the "former house" had given place to the "latter house," and who must have compared the two houses greatly to the "glory of this latter house." And as they called to mind the bitter contest over the site of the "latter house," which had caused such estrangement among the brethren of the same fold, they must have been devoutly thankful that in the flight of years the Lord had brought a peace which seemed to be an assured prophecy of peace in the rolling years to come, a prophecy which has since been fulfilled. Dr. Todd preached in the evening from Hebrews, XIII, 8: "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day and forever."

In November, 1838, the Society's Committee was directed to purchase *two stoves* for the use of the meeting house, and dispose of the old stove and pipe.

On Sept. 1, 1841, a committee was appointed "*to dispose of the old bell, and to purchase a new one,*" which was to weigh "from 700 to 800 lbs." This *second bell* was raised to its place Dec. 9, 1841, and weighed 816 pounds—largely paid for by subscriptions. In 1849, stone steps were erected in front of the house in place of the former wooden ones. A second enlargement of the church, ordered in 1853, resulted in improvements thus described by the chairman of the building committee, Dea. Levi S. Deming, in an address delivered at Newington, Oct. 2, 1897, on the 100th Anniversary of the church building. "A new frame surrounded the tower in front, and brought out the corners of the building to its present form and size. The part of the tower left above the roof was newly covered, and another section added to the height. The entire building was newly covered also with cornices and casings and clapboards, without removing the old. New window frames and large glass were used. The edifice outside had the appearance of being entirely new. The inside improvement was equally great. The windows were closed in the west end wall, and the large timbers of the frame concealed by a level surface, with only one arched panel behind the pulpit. The projecting posts of the side walls were hewed back, and all walls and overhead ceilings covered by new lath and plastering, but yet without removing the old. The east gallery was moved still farther back, and the audience room very much enlarged in that direction. A handsome breastwork and turned posts completed the gallery front. A very good pattern of frescoe work covered all walls and ceiling, giving to the room as finished the appearance of one newly built, on the inside as well as outside. The additional covering within and without greatly strengthened the building."

Officers in the Militia.—Some officers of the militia have already been mentioned. Others that succeeded them from Newington were Captains JOSIAH WILLARD, CHARLES CHURCHILL, MARTIN KELLOGG, 3D., ROBERT WELLES, SR., ROBERT WELLES, JR., JONATHAN STODDARD, LEVI LUSK, ABSALOM WELLS, ROBERT FRANCIS, JONATHAN STODDARD, JR., MARTIN KELLOGG, 5TH, JAMES DEMING, JOSEPH CAMP, SIMEON STODDARD, DANIEL WILLARD, ERASTUS LATIMER, ERASTUS FRANCIS, SELDEN DEMING, DANIEL H. WILLARD, ALBERT S. HUNN, HENRY LUCE, and perhaps others.

Of these Levi Lusk, Martin Kellogg, 5th, and Joseph Camp, became Colonels, and the first two became successively Brigadier and Major



NEWINGTON (CONN.) CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

By Courtesy of Hon. E. S. Welles.

Generals. Brig.-Gen. Levi Lusk served at New London in the War of 1812-5, from Aug. 18 to Aug. 26, 1814, and Lieut. Joseph Camp served there in the same war from Aug. 3, to Sept. 16, 1813. Two small drafts were made from the Newington Company, and stationed at Groton to defend New London, and the frigate "Macedonian," and the sloop-of-war "Hornet," from any attack that might be made from the British fleet on the coast.

The Methodist Episcopal Church.—In 1834, the few Methodists resident in the town were joined by some few disaffected members of the Congregational church, and on Nov. 28, 1834, Mr. Zacheus Brown conveyed a rood of land, at the northwest corner of his home lot, to Amon Richards, Robert Francis, Jr., and Hervey Francis, "in trust for the use and benefit of the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church." On Dec. 1, 1834, the cellar was dug, and foundation laid and the frame of a meeting house was raised April 4, 1835, the building dedicated June 11, 1835. It was 26 by 36 feet in size, without steeple or bell, and faced west with two front doors. Public worship was maintained there for some years. Its Sunday school numbered 40 scholars in 1837. The organization did not, however, attain any permanent prosperity, and the site being sold Dec. 13, 1860, the meeting house was then removed to the corner northeast of the Congregational church, and again sold in 1870, and devoted to private uses. The assets and members went to the Methodist church in New Britain. Thus was repeated on a small scale the history of "Christ Church," already related.

The Congregational Sunday School.—This Sunday school began, in 1818, by the voluntary efforts of some young ladies, who taught classes of scholars, without any formal organization, or recognition by the church. The names of some of these pioneers were PRUDENCE KELLOGG, HARRIET BENHAM, JULIA CHURCHILL, ALMA CAMP and perhaps MARY BRACE.

Miss Julia Churchill's journal records the formal establishment of the school on June 20, 1819. A Sabbath school was established with four little children as a class in her charge, increased by August to seven, viz.: Lucinda Blinn, Jane Hooper, Lucinda Wells, Maria Hubbard, Catherine Wells, Lucretia Andrus and Fidelia Stoddard.

The school held only summer sessions as there was no way of warming the church in winter.

In the summer of 1820, the organization of the school was made more formal, indicating a growing recognition of its value. Dea. LEVI

DEMING was chosen *Leader*. The writer remembers him in his old age. He was tall, his locks were gray, his voice pitched upon a high key, and his countenance grave, as if religion was a stern reality to him. There was an odor of sanctity about him which impressed the youthful imagination with a sense of awe. He was a good man when good men were few, and a deacon when to be a deacon was morally heroic. He died Jan. 1, 1847, aged 74. Some of the teachers at that time were ORIGEN WELLS, DANIEL WILLARD, WILLIAM KIRKHAM, ALLEN STODDARD, JOSIAH ATWOOD, JOHN FRANCIS, WILLIAM DEMING and HIRAM E. STODDARD, besides the female teachers already mentioned.

Bible helps for the scholars at that time were their own inquiring minds and ready memories. They learned passages and texts of scripture, without question book or commentary. The school was held at noon, between the services, and no singing book was used, and singing was not introduced for many years. In the summer of 1821, the Sunday school re-organized. Mr. Nettleton, the famous evangelist, preached in Newington in the months of January, February, March and April, 1821. On May 6th, forty-seven new members joined the church, and ten more on July 1st. Many of these were men in the full strength of manhood, with their wives, as well as children, who afterwards became the pillars of the church. Mr. Daniel Willard was chosen superintendent, and William Deming his assistant and secretary. For thirteen years Mr. Willard was the acting superintendent, and Mr. Deming his efficient assistant. For five years more, until 1839, Mr. Willard was the nominal, but Mr. Deming the real superintendent, as Mr. Willard was engaged in travelling during that period.

The National Society, called "The American Sunday School Union," was formed at Philadelphia, May 25, 1824. The State Society, called "The Connecticut Sunday School Union," was organized in October, 1824. The County Society, called "The Hartford County Sabbath School Union," was organized at Hartford, June 14, 1827. The County Society was auxiliary to the State Society, and the latter to the National Society. Our Sunday school, in April, 1826, formed itself into a "Sabbath School Society," auxiliary, at first, to the State Society.

The third annual report of the Newington Sabbath School Society is found in the second annual report of "The Hartford County Sabbath School Union," presented at their meeting held in Hartford on Wednesday evening, April 8, 1829, and indicates a gratifying progress. It is, in part, as follows: "This school was commenced in the spring of 1826, and embraces a Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent,

Librarian, 24 Teachers and 118 Scholars. The number of volumes in the library is 200."

The winter of 1828-9, referred to in this report, was doubtless the first winter in which the church was heated by a stove. "Judson's Questions" is the first question book mentioned as in use. During the year 1829, fifteen persons united with the church. These results may be attributed, in part certainly, to the existence of the Sunday school. "The Wethersfield and Berlin Sunday School Union" was organized at Newington, 6 Sept., 1832.

The Sunday schools which formed this "Union" were those of Wethersfield, Rocky Hill and Newington, all of the then Town of Wethersfield, and those of Kensington, New Britain and Worthington, all of the then Town of Berlin. During the first few years of the existence of this union, Mr. DANIEL WILLARD and Mr. WILLIAM DEMING were prominent and leading members in its meetings. Mr. Willard was the president in the years 1834-5-6.

In 1839, Mr. Willard resigned his official position in the Sunday school. He must be awarded the high praise of having been a finished Christian gentleman. His scrupulous courtesy was not a mere formal politeness, but was accompanied with genial and heartfelt sincerity. The grasp of his hand indicated the warmth of his feelings. His education was not finished when he arrived at maturity, but he was ever learning and imparting his knowledge. His kind manners and pleasant countenance endeared him to all who knew him. In the latter years of his life he compiled a mass of materials relating to the history of Newington and its families, of great interest. He died April 7, 1868, aged 84.

In August, 1839, Dea. ORIGEN WELLS was appointed superintendent and held the position till about 1843. Dea. Wells was a very good man, inclined to be self-distrustful and retiring, underrating himself more than was his just desert. He spoke in a plaintive tone of voice, bewailing his often infirmities. He had charge of the communion table for many years. He died Dec. 23, 1868, aged 85.

In 1843, Dea. JEDEDIAH DEMING was chosen superintendent and held that position several years. From 1847 to 1854, there is some doubt whether he or Mr. Levi S. Deming was the superintendent.

Dea. JEDEDIAH DEMING, chosen a deacon July 1, 1847, was a man of mild manners but firm principles. Thoughtful and careful in forming his opinions, he could always be relied upon to stand by his convictions. As he was not hasty in his judgment, he was generally right. Not obtrusive or self-seeking, he did not shrink from responsibility,

however unpleasant, if it was in the line of duty. Irreproachable in his own character, he was charitable to the failings of others. It could be truthfully said of him that he was "not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." He died May 4, 1868, aged 77.

Dea. JEREMIAH SEYMOUR was another deacon on the roll of Sunday school workers. He had that uniform courtesy and kindness of deportment in his intercourse with others which reminded one of the "gentlemen of the old school." He always could be relied upon to do his full share in sustaining the Church and Sunday school, both financially and otherwise. He died April 1, 1867, aged 80.

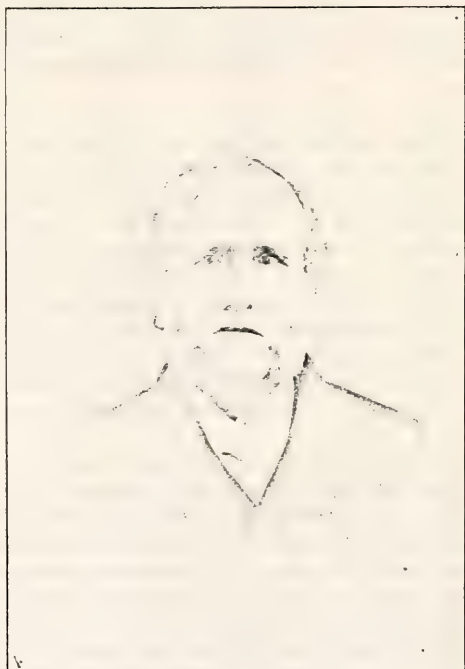
Indeed the deacons of the church have been workers in the Sunday school from its institution to the present time. The officers of our church have ever realized its value and helped the Sunday school with their presence and prayers. Dr. Brace, too, was always faithful to its interests. In the record of a meeting of the S. S. Union, held at New Britian Sept. 6, 1853, occurs this characteristic entry by Dea. Andrews, its secretary: "An extraordinary prayer by Rev. J. Brace, Newington." No other such entry appears in that book of records. Dea. Andrews must have been astonished at the wonderful power and gift of Dr. Brace in addressing the throne of grace. In Dec., 1854, the Sunday school presented an easy chair to Dr. Brace, as a slight memorial of their affection, and on New Year's Day, 1855, they met in a body at his house, and through their superintendent, presented an address and received his blessing. Many must still remember the occasion, his feeling remarks and his closing prayer.

Dea. LEVI S. DEMING was chosen superintendent in 1847, and perhaps before that time, and continued in the office till 1858. He was also chosen president of the S. S. Union, Sept. 4, 1855, and by annual reelection till Sept. 11, 1866, when he, and Dea. Alfred Andrews of N. Britian, who had been the secretary from the beginning, both declined a reappointment. Dea. Deming removed to Middletown in April, 1869, and is still living.

April 5, 1854, died ELISHA WHAPLES, JR., aged 53. He was long the librarian. Genial in his temperament, and hearty in his manners, he was greatly lamented.

Mrs. LUCY COLLINS BRACE, wife of the pastor, died Nov. 16, aged 72½ years. She was a leader in the church, in the Ladies' Society, and in the Sunday school until almost the close of her husband's ministry.

During the year 1858, MARCUS W. STODDARD was the superintendent. A man of strong moral convictions, and firm in maintaining them.



REV. WILLIAM P. AIKEN.

Though he was outspoken in freely expressing his opinions, yet as he was known to be sincere, they were always received with respect, even by those who differed from him. He died Dec. 5, 1863, aged 51.

In 1859, Dea. CHARLES K. ATWOOD became superintendent, and continued in office till he resigned, Sept. 7, 1863, when JOSEPH J. FRANCIS was appointed, who remained at the head of the school till his resignation, Dec. 31, 1868. He was succeeded by ROGER WELLES, who held the position till he resigned, January 4, 1873, when JOHN S. KIRKHAM was chosen, who continued till January 2, 1880, when JOSHUA BELDEN was chosen, who is still in charge. A new chapel was erected in 1895.

The first collection ever reported as taken up in the school, was in 1860, amount \$13. From that time the contributions have steadily increased, until in the eleven months ending June 30, 1900, the offerings were \$212. Number in the school 224, officers 8, teachers 20. But money has not been the only contribution. Its members have consecrated their lives to the defence of our common country. In 1862, Mr. Atwood reported that the school furnished 12 soldiers in the army, and 11 in 1863. Two were martyrs to the cause, HENRY W. DAVIS and EUGENE B. WILLARD. The former was killed at Sharpsburg, Md., Sept. 17, 1862. The latter died at Arlington, Va., April 21, 1863. Three members were in the recent Spanish War, ROGER WELLES, JR., in the navy, and CHARLES S. FRANCIS and ALFRED B. PIMM in the army.

REV. WILLIAM POPE AIKEN, *Pastor 1857-1867, fifth minister* of Newington, was born at Fairhaven, Mass., July 9, 1825, the second son of Lemuel Smith and Sarah (*Coffin*) Aiken. He fitted for college at Monson Academy, and graduated at Yale College in the famous Class of 1853, ranking among the foremost of his class in scholarship. After graduation he studied theology, and acted as tutor in his Alma Mater from 1855 to 1857. In the early part of 1856, he supplied the pulpit at Newington, a few times, and the church on March 3, 1856, voted to call him to become colleague pastor with Rev. Dr. Brace, and the terms of settlement and the date of his ordination were duly arranged. His salary was to be \$900 a year, and his ordination was fixed for January 15, 1857, and the day of fasting and prayer was appointed for January 9, 1857, when the public exercises were conducted by Rev. Samuel J. Andrews, assisted by Rev. Frederick Gridley.

Mr. Aiken discharged the duties of pastor for ten years, endearing himself to his people by the high qualities of his mind and heart. They reluctantly yielded to his resignation, in the summer of 1867. After

his departure he became principal of the academy at Groton, Mass., for two years, and pastor of the Congregational church at Vergennes, Vt., for three years. Owing to ill health he spent his last years in Rutland, Vt., where he died March 29, 1884. His death was commemorated by the Church of Newington, in a special memorial service, held 20 Apl., 1884. His wife died in Rutland, Vt., July 14, 1891. During Mr. Aiken's pastorate the admissions to the church were 54; baptisms, 63; marriages, 31; deaths, 109. The deacons chosen were RUFUS STODDARD, May 3, 1867; died January 30, 1870; LEVI S. DEMING, May 3, 1867, removed to Guilford, in April, 1869. The former was chosen to fill the place made vacant by the death of Dea. Jeremiah Seymour, while the latter was elected as a third deacon. The church voted unanimously Oct. 30, 1862, to withdraw from the "Hartford South Consociation," with which it had been connected for many years. The pastor and church sympathized with Dr. Bushnell, rather than with the "Consociation" in their "unpleasantness." Dr. Bushnell and Mr. Aiken were warm personal friends, and the former often visited the latter in Newington.

The War of the Rebellion.—In the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1865, Newington furnished forty-nine volunteers and nine substitutes for the Connecticut Volunteer Regiments, as follows:

Name	Company & Reg't.		Enlistment.	Remarks.
John Earnshaw	Co. B.	1st. Reg't.	April 19, 1861.	Hon. Disch. July 31, 1861.
H. Hudson Stoddard,	" I,	5th. "	July 22, 1861.	Disch. Disability. Dec. 5, 1862.
Jacob Bollerer,	" G,	6th. "	Sept. 4, 1861.	Disch. Sept. 11, 1864.
Lewis W. Dunham,	" G,	6th. "	Sept. 4, 1861.	Transf. to Invalid Corps.
John Richards,	" C,	7th. "	Sept. 6, 1861.	Must. out, July 20, 1865.
Nathan G. Barnum,	" A,	8th, "	Sept. 25, 1861.	Rejected, Nov. 2, 1861.
William Hubbard,	" B,	7th. "	Sept. 7, 1861.	Died Oct. 8, 1862.
Patrick McAloon,	Co. G.	9th. Reg't.	Sept. 27, 1861.	Died, Aug. 14, 1862.
Michael Halliman,	" G,	9th. "	Nov. 25, 1861.	Disch. Oct. 29, 1864.
Elmore F. Jenks,	" D,	10th. "	Oct. 1, 1861.	Disch. Oct. 7, 1864.
Frederick Richards,	" E,	10th. "	Nov. 1, 1861.	Disch. Nov. 1, 1864.
Henry W. Davis,	" K,	11th. "	Nov. 25, 1861.	Killed, Sept. 17, 1862.
Samuel Steel,	" K,	11th, "	Dec. 11, 1861.	Disch. Disability, Apr. 14, 1862.
George H. Whaples,	" K,	11th. "	Dec. 13, 1861.	Deserted, June 3, 1864.
Edwin B. Tobey,	" H,	11th. "	Nov. 20, 1861.	Transf. to Vet. Res. Corps, March 31, 1864.

Henry Rising,	" D, 11th.	"	Nov. 12, 1861.	Killed, Sept. 17, 1862.
George T. Dickson,	" C, 12th.	"	Nov. 20, 1861.	Must. out. Aug. 12, 1863.
Abel Steele,	" I, 12th.	"	Jan'y. 27, 1862.	D i s c h. Disability, Apr. 5, 1862.
Newell Dow,	" A, 13th.	"	Dec. 31, 1861.	D i s c h. Disability, June 1, 1862.
Patrick Reynolds,	" A, 13th.	"	Jan. 22, 1862.	Deserted, Aug. 27, 1864.
Sylvester W. Steele,	" F, 14th.	"	July 18, 1862.	Killed, Dec. 13, 1862.
Austin N. Steele,	" F, 14th.	"	Aug. 7, 1862.	D i s c h. Disability, Jan. 24, 1863.
Henry N. Whaples,	" K, 20th.	"	Aug. 15, 1862.	Must. out. June 13, 1863.
Robert W. Joiner,	" G, 20th.	"	Aug. 15, 1862.	Must. Out. June 13, 1863.
Samuel Richards,	" C, 7th.	"	Feb. 15th, 1862,	Must. out. July 20, 1863.
Almon J. Hart,	" B, 21st.	"	Aug. 18, 1862.	Must. out. June 16, 1863.
John D. Griswold,	" E, 22d.	"	Aug. 21, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
Edward Harker,	" E, 22d.	"	Aug. 21, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
Henry Lindon,	" E, 22d.	"	Aug. 22, 1862.	Dis. Disability. Jan. 16, 1863.
Serg't. Charles L. Willard,	" B, 22d.	"	July 27, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
Eugene B. Willard,	" B, 22d.	"	Aug. 28, 1862.	Died. Apr. 21, 1863.
Unni P. Blinn,	" E, 22d.	"	Aug. 27, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
George N. Downes,	" B, 22d.	"	Aug. 29, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
James A. Smith,	" B, 22d.	"	Aug. 30, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
Daniel K. Bennett,	" B, 22d.	"	Aug. 29, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
Lafayette Gladding,	" B, 22d.	"	Aug. 30, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
George S. Deming,	" B, 22d.	"	Aug. 30, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
Gaylord Morgan,	" B, 22d.	"	Aug. 30, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
Joseph Whaples,	" B, 22d.	"	Aug. 30, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
Anthony Wright,	" B, 22d.	"	Aug. 30, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
John L. Osgood,	Co. D, 22d. Reg't.		Aug. 30, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
Edward P. Joyner,	" D, 22d.	"	Sept. 1, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.
William E. Quigley,	" E, 22d.	"	Sept. 9, 1862.	Hon. Dis. July 7, 1863.

Oliver L. Steele,	" A, 25th. "	Aug. 25, 1862.	Hon. Dis. Aug. 26, 1863.
Edward Steele,	Heavy Artiller, Co. G, 1st, Reg't.	June 1, 1863.	Must. out. Sept. 25, 1863.
Azariah Gladden,	Heavy Artillery. Co. A, 1st. Reg't.	Jan. 5, 1864.	Deserted, Aug. 2, 1863.
Joseph French,	Enlisted in the Regular Army.		
George Gallagher,	" " " " "		
William G. Huntley,	" " " " "	Navy.	

The following persons furnished substitutes: Charles K. Atwood, Jared Starr, John S. Kilbourn, Edgar Spaulding, Thomas Marksley, Reuben C. Osborn, Franklin C. Latimer, Henry M. Robbins, Charles S. Francis.

Industries.—There are still three *mill* privileges which have been occupied as sites where mills have been operated by water power: one in the center, one at the north end, and one near the west boundary line. The first was the sawmill built in 1678, at the foot of the pond, on Piper's Brook, as already related. When the sawmill had exhausted the primeval woods, and therefore had ended its career, a grist mill was built on the site by Israel and Joseph Kelsey of Berlin, and Unni Robbins of Newington. This was afterwards destroyed by fire as have been several other mills and factories at that place. A distillery was carried on there for some years by Roger Welles, a son of Gen. Welles, where cider brandy was manufactured, until the Washingtonian temperance movement touched the conscience of the owner and he abandoned the business. A son of his, Edwin Welles, afterwards manufactured there cotton batting and edged tools for a few years. This site is now occupied as a paper mill, using both water and steam power.

The first *grist mill* was built at the north end, on Wood River, as early as 1720, by Dea. Josiah Willard. This was succeeded by another built by Martin Kellogg, 4th, and Daniel Willard, 2d. Its long mill dam was several times partially carried away by the freshets to which that river is subject. About 1838, a satinet factory was built there by Gen. Martin Kellogg, Daniel Willard, 3d, and John M. Belden. It did a prosperous business during the War of the Rebellion in furnishing cloth for the Union soldiers. It also was burned a few years ago, and the site has since been vacant.

The third site, near the west boundary, was first occupied by a grist mill built by Benjamin Adkins. This was followed by another built

by Joseph and James Churchill, and afterwards owned and operated by Martin Luther, until recent years. It is now disused and gone to decay. East of this site a brick kiln has been carried on for several years by the Messrs. Dennis, near the New York and New England Railroad, and a station has been established there called "Clayton." In former days numerous *cider mills* were scattered throughout the society, but in the march of events, they have been left behind, and exist only in ruins, if at all. There was once a *tavern*, located at the south end on the Turnpike, where Gen. Levi Lusk thought it was his religious duty to sell good liquor, but he died Sept. 16, 1824, and his hostelry did not long survive him. It has no successor. The Town of Newington has always voted "*No License*." The principal industry has at all times been the tilling of the soil. A century ago there was some commerce with the West Indies. The products of the soil were carried to the Connecticut River at Wethersfield or Rocky Hill, and exported by vessels, especially onions, bunched by the nimble fingers of the farmers' wives and daughters. Thousands of these "ropes" were sent abroad, and molasses, sugar and rum were brought in return cargoes, to sweeten and cheer the lives of our hard-worked fathers. When the minister called on his parishioners in discharge of his pastoral duty, the decanter on the sideboard was a welcome testimony of respect for him and of their love and religion. Our soil is well adapted to the cultivation of all the ordinary farm crops. Hartford and New Britain have grown to be markets of easy access, while two railroads furnish transportation to those more remote. An electric railway between Hartford and New Britain runs through the center of Newington, greatly to the convenience of the people. Our town enters upon the new century with prospects brighter than ever before in its history.

Legacies and Gifts to Newington Church and Town.—These have been numerous. We mention them briefly in order:

1. That of Miss Mary (daughter of Dea. Josiah) Willard, 1759, for "the improvement of schooling," £80; this was contested by a sister living in Massachusetts, but the action of the General Assembly finally secured it to the Newington Society, after a delay of 13 years.

2. The *John Deming* legacy, 1761, of £20 "to be improved for the lasting use and benefit of said church." This, amounting to \$66.67, was put out on loan, and its income applied to the expense of the communion table.

3. The *Jedediah Deming* legacy, 1787, of £60 "lawful silver money (accounting Spanish milled dollars at 6s. each)" for procuring "a sufficient quantity of *good orthodox books*, of Calvinistical principles,"

as a library for use of said Society—to be under the care and direction of the deacons of the church. This bequest was the foundation of the *Charity Library* (almost entirely religious books) of which Simon Welles was for many years, librarian. It no longer exists, though a few of the books may still be found in private families.

4. The *Rosanna Deming* legacy, 1821, mostly in real estate, valued at about \$3,000—but which legacy, inasmuch as it cut off a nephew, her only legal heir, was compromised, at the Society's suggestion, by payment to the Society of \$500. It was to be used as a perquisite to the ministry, "aside from his salary."

5. The *Amos Andrus* legacy, 1826, of certain lands in Wethersfield Township, inventoried at \$11,000, "for the Society's use, either in building or repairing a place of worship, or for the support of the gospel." For more concerning this Amos Andrus, see the *Andrus Gen.*, in Vol. II.

6. The *Prudence Hall* legacy, 1873, of real estate, valued at a little over \$1,000, to the Ecclesiastical Society, subject to its paying expenses of her last illness and funeral, and of settlement of her estate, and the erection of a fitting monument over her remains. From this legacy a parsonage house was erected, and the former house changed into a barn.

7. The gift in 1857, of a fine \$1,500 pipe organ, by the widow and children of the late Reuben C. Osborn, deceased, as a memorial.

8. The *Elizabeth Scymour Brown* legacy, 1893, \$100, for the care of the Scymour lot in the Newington burying ground.

9. The *Henry M. Robbins* legacy, 1898, of \$2,000 for the maintenance of the church choir, and \$5,000 for the Ecclesiastical Society, to use the income only. Mr. Robbins also gave to the Town a piece of land, as a site for a public library; and a bequest to the *Home of the Children's Aid Society*, located in Newington, for the care of incurable children.

Grace (Prot. Epis.) Church.—The second Episcopal organization in Newington held its first church service in 1860, in the house of Jared Starr, Esq., at the north end. Such services were held in private houses or in the depot of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. Co., till November, 1874, when the corner stone of Grace Church was laid. In March, 1875, the edifice was completed and occupied. The audience room has seats for one hundred and fifty persons. Its location is upon a hill about half a mile northeast of the depot. The number of families on the parish register is twenty-six; communicants sixty-four. The clergymen who have officiated more or less are Rev. Messrs Prof. FRANCIS

T. RUSSELL, F. B. CHETWOOD, FRANCIS GOODWIN, WILLIAM F. NICHOLS, JOHN M. BATES, HOWARD S. CLAPP and JARED STARR. The latter was ordained in 1887, and placed in charge of the parish, and still so remains. Grace Church was consecrated June 15, 1882, and has always been free to all, supported by voluntary contributions collected every Sunday. Its wardens are Edmund Starr and George Brinley. The church owes its existence and prosperity to the untiring efforts of its pastor, Rev. Jared Starr.

REV. SANFORD SMITH MARTYN, 1868-1870.—The *sixth minister* of Newington was the Rev. SANFORD SMITH MARTYN. In November, 1867, he began to preach, being then a member of the senior class in the Yale Theological Seminary. On Feb. 16, 1868, the church voted to call him as pastor, and the society soon after joined in the invitation. Mr. Martyn accepted the call and was ordained April 29th, 1868.

On Sunday, April 17, 1870, Mr. Martyn offered his resignation as pastor, to take effect April 29, 1870, which was just two years from the date of his ordination. He had received a call to the church in New Hartford, where he was afterwards settled. He is still living (Sept., 1900).

During Mr. Martyn's pastorate the admissions to the church were 45; baptisms, 21; marriages, 4; deaths, 13. The deacons chosen were JEDEDIAH DEMING, Feb. 6, 1870, who died June 16, 1899; CHARLES K. ATWOOD and HEMAN A. WHITTLESEY, March 6, 1870. These deacons were chosen to fill the vacancies occasioned by the death of Dea. Jedediah Deming, 1st, the removal of Dea. Levi S. Deming and the death of Dea. Rufus Stoddard.

The church voted Oct. 18, 1868, to unite with the "Hartford South Conference," which superseded the "Hartford South Consociation," and was more liberal in character. That connection still exists.

If Mr. Martyn's ministry be estimated by the number of admissions to the church during his pastorate, it was a most successful one. His "fervid oratory and fervent prayers" were not unavailing. Many who listened to him have still a warm place for him in their hearts, especially those who first received the communion at his hands.

Rev. Dr. ROBERT GEORGE VERMILYE, 1870-1873, the *seventh pastor*, was born March 3, 1813, in New York City, the son of William W. and Mary (*Montgomery*) Vermilye. He supplied the pulpit as stated pastor, from the second Sabbath in June, 1870, until November 2, 1873, when he ceased his services on account of failing health. He graduated at Columbia College, New York, in 1831. In December, 1837, he was appointed a professor of Greek and Latin in that college. He was

licensed as a minister by the Presbytery of New York, April 19, 1838, and was ordained pastor of the Presbyterian church in German Valley, New Jersey, in July, 1843. He was afterwards called to the pastorate of the Congregational church in Clinton, Oneida County, New York, where he was installed June 10, 1846. He received the honorary degree of D. D. from his Alma Mater in 1851, when 38 years old. In 1857, he was elected to the professorship of Systematic Theology in the Connecticut Theological Institute, then located at East Windsor, but afterwards at Hartford, which position he held till his death.

The society in August, 1873, voted to make repairs on the inside of the church to the amount of \$3,000. Under this vote extensive repairs were made, modernizing the whole interior of the church, putting in new windows and two furnaces instead of the old stoves, making the church look quite attractive.

The church record tells the story as follows: "The pulpit was supplied during the year 1873, until the annual meeting of the society in November, by the Rev. R. G. Vermilye, either in person or by substitute, and the parsonage was occupied by him for three months after the first of July. During the latter part of 1873, Dr. Vermilye's health failed, so that he was unable to preach, but furnished supplies at the request of the society's committee."

Nov. 2, 1873. On the first Sabbath in November the usual communion service was held in the town hall. Dr. Vermilye, who had by special request supplied the pulpit, since his resignation as pastor, officiated for the last time, and never preached again. His feebleness was evident to all, and as he dispensed for the last time the symbols of the Saviour's dying love, and spoke his own parting words, the tearful eyes of the congregation testified their love, sympathy and sorrow. "They sorrowed most of all that they should see his face no more." He died at Hartford, July 5, 1875.

In social intercourse, Dr. Vermilye was kindly and genial, and won the hearts of his people. They venerated his piety and purity of heart, and at the same time felt an honest pride in his large knowledge and ability.

During his pastorate the admissions to the church were 6; baptisms, 4; marriages, 5, and deaths in the town 28.

The period of his pastorate was an important one, not only because of the improvements made in the church edifice, but also because Newington emerged from Societyhood to Townhood, built a town hall, and established a local town government, all of which changes contributed

more to the political and material advancement of Newington than to the spiritual upbuilding of the church.

Rev. WILLIAM JAMIESON THOMPSON, 1875-1879, the *eighth pastor*, was born July 21, 1840, in New York City. He graduated from Columbia College and afterwards from Princeton Seminary. After a few months' travel in Europe he accepted a call to the church in Croton Falls, New York. After a four years' pastorate there, on account of ill health, he removed to Seymour, Conn., where he preached two years as stated supply. He was called to the pastorate of this church, March 21, and ordained May 27, 1875.

On Sunday, Nov. 17, 1878, Mr. Thomson resigned as pastor, to take effect April 25, 1879. This resignation was accepted.

During his pastorate the admissions to the church were 49; baptisms, 28; marriages, 8; deaths on the church record, 37.

After leaving Newington, he preached in South Glastonbury for two years, and from there he went to East Canaan, Conn. After a pastorate of two years at East Canaan, broken by ill health, he died there Feb. 24, 1885, aged 44 years. He was a firm believer in the efficacy of praying for specific temporal blessings, which he practiced, with the result that he often received the particular blessings specified in his petitions, as he was in the habit of assuring his people.

Rev. JOHN E. ELLIOTT, 1879-1884, the *ninth pastor* of the church, born in New London, Oct. 22, 1829, was a descendant of Elder Brewster. He graduated at Amherst College in 1857, and from the Conn. Theological Institute in 1860. He afterwards married Miss Mary A. Thomson of East Windsor. He became the pastor of the church in Ridgebury, and subsequently was settled in Higganum. Thence he went as a Home Missionary to Iowa, and later to Nebraska. In 1874, he returned to the East, and became the pastor of the church in South Glastonbury. He was appointed the acting pastor of the church in Newington at a church meeting held Sept. 7, 1879, and continued in that relation until Sunday, Sept. 28, 1884, when he preached his farewell sermon, and closed his connection with this church. After leaving Newington, he was about three years in Bridgewater engaged again in Home Missionary work, State of Washington, and died Jan. 19, 1888. During his pastorate in Newington, mainly by his efforts, a Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor was formed, which has ever since flourished, and been the means of great development of the spiritual growth of the young people. Also the debt of the Ecclesiastical Society was paid, and he labored to create an interest in a project to build a chapel, which however did not materialize till some years

later. He was earnest in his ministry for both the material and spiritual interests of the church, which were ever dear to his heart.

During his pastorate the admissions to the church were 43; baptisms, 36; marriages, 5, and deaths, 30. His remains were buried in the cemetery in New London.

Rev. JOHN OTIS BARROWS, 1885-1891, the *tenth pastor*, was born in Mansfield, Conn., in 1833. He graduated from Amherst College in 1860, and studied theology at the Hartford and Andover Seminaries. He was called to North Hampton, N. H., in 1863, and after a pastorate there of several years was settled at Exeter, N. H. In 1870, he was sent by the American Board as a missionary to Turkey. After ten and one-half years in that field, he returned to this country on account of the ill health of his family. He then preached in Atchinson, N. H. On Feb. 22, 1885, he preached for the first time in the Newington church, and began an engagement for one year May 3, 1885. Dec. 6, 1885, he was called to become the settled pastor and accepted the call Feb. 27, 1886. He was ordained 29 April, 1886.

Mr. Barrows took a vacation of one year from Sept. 21, 1891, on account of ill health, but his health not improving, he resigned as pastor, Nov. 28, 1891. During his pastorate the admissions were 68; baptisms, 14; marriages, none recorded; deaths, 21.

Mr. Barrows and his wife both endeared themselves to the people of his charge by their cordial courtesy. The warm grasp of his hand indicated the kindness of his heart. He was ever a strong friend of missions and a strong foe of intemperance. He would have annihilated every liquor saloon in the world, if he had only had the power, and could have made the manufacture of liquor a lost art forevermore. The *Woman's Christian Temperance Union* was organized with his approval and assistance. The benevolent contributions of the church increased, and the whole life of the church was invigorated. He is now (1900) living in Stonington, Conn., and has a daughter who is a missionary in Van, Turkey.

Rev. HERBERT MACY, 1892, the *eleventh and present pastor*, was born at Fall River, Mass., Sept. 2, 1857, the son of Alexander and Sarah (*Judkins*) Macy. On his father's side he is a descendant of the Macys of Nantucket, and traces his ancestry back to Capt. Paul Macy, one of the original proprietors of the Island. His mother's father was a merchant in Boston, having a store near the State House, to which Daniel Webster often resorted to get his drink of "flip." His education began in Paxton, Mass., where his parents had moved, and was continued in the High School of Worcester, and then for two years

under the private instruction of Rev. Calvin Butler and Dr. D. O. Mears of Worcester. During several years prior to 1880, he was identified with the work of the Young Men's Christian Association of Worcester. He graduated in 1883, from the Hartford Theological Seminary, preached for a year in the South Church of East Hartford, and declined a call to become its pastor. He then went to San Francisco, Cal., and was ordained in September, 1883, as pastor of the Fourth Congregational church of that city, which church had been organized by Dr. Bissell, who had been a beloved teacher of Mr. Macy as a professor in the Hartford Seminary. In 1884, he went to the Hawaiian Islands on a vacation, preaching there at Hilo, and at the Fort Street Church in Honolulu. He married June 18, 1885, Nellie Means Griswold of Rocky Hill. As the climate of San Francisco did not agree with the health of Mrs. Macy, they returned in 1886, to New England, and then he served for a year as pastor of the Third Congregational Church of Chicopee, Mass. He declined a call at that place, and in 1888, became General Missionary of St. Paul, Minn., where he organized the Olivet Church, and became its first pastor. After three years of service there, he returned to New England, and supplied the Newington church while Mr. Barrows was on his leave of absence. On Dec. 12, 1891, the church voted to invite him to become their pastor. He accepted and was ordained Feb. 10, 1892.

The admissions to September, 1900, have been 77; baptisms, 59; deaths, 27. Deacons have been chosen as follows: January 9, 1896, ROGER WELLES; January 25, 1900, FRANKLIN C. LATIMER; the former on account of the removal of Dea. H. A. WHITTLESEY to Middletown, and the latter to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of Dea. Jedediah Deming.

NEWINGTON INCORPORATED A TOWN.—By the census of 1870, the First Society of Wethersfield had 1,915 inhabitants, and the Newington Society 781, making a total of 2,694 for the whole town.

The disadvantages of the union of these two societies in one town had long been realized by the people of Newington. Some of the reasons for their separation and for the incorporation of each society into a town were the following:

The two localities were separated by natural boundaries. Cedar Mountain divided the two societies through their entire length. In addition three ranges of hills, with intervening watercourses and valleys, running parallel to Cedar Mountain, and east of it, had to be crossed to get from one society to the other. As the voting place and the town clerk's office, and treasurer's office, and a majority of the other

town offices were located in Wethersfield, it was a heavy burden upon the people of Newington to travel from four to six miles to Wethersfield to vote, or do any other town business, across the mountain, hills and swamps which the God of nature had placed as barriers of non-intercourse between them. Man had done little to overcome these natural disadvantages. The roads were stony and steep over the mountain and hills, and wet and muddy through the swamps and valleys, especially at the spring elections, then held on the first Monday of April in each year. Good roads would have required a large outlay of expense, which was not warranted by the small amount of travel over them. All the trade and business interests of the two societies were distinct. There was therefore no natural or artificial tie to bind them together, except the mandate of the legislature. Under these circumstances, before the election in April, 1871, a meeting of Newington citizens, irrespective of party, was held at the railroad depot, to consider the advisability of petitioning the next legislature, at its May session, 1871, for the incorporation of Newington as a new town. The meeting decided unanimously in favor of such action, and nominated Roger Welles, as their candidate for representative to the legislature to secure the act of incorporation. He was also nominated soon after by the Republican caucus for the same office. Before the election he was also put upon the Democratic ticket for representative in place of Chas. K. Atwood, resigned. The election was held April 3, 1871, with the two tickets resulting for representatives, as follows:

Republican Votes.		Democratic Votes.	
Gen. James C. Pratt,	263	Simeon Hale,	194
Roger Welles,	248	Roger Welles,	184
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Pratt over Welles,	15	Hale over Welles,	10

As Welles was nominated and ran squarely on the new town issue, the result developed by the votes, was as follows:

For New Town, Rep.,	248	Dem.,	184	Total,	432
Against New Town, Rep.,	15	Dem.,	10	Total,	25

Or in the proportion of more than 17 in favor, to 1 against, the new town. The First Society of Wethersfield was almost unanimously in favor of the new town, as it would give that part of the town two representatives instead of one (as one had been allowed to Newington)

and all the town offices. The 25 votes in opposition probably came from Newington, as some Republicans thought that Newington would become a Democratic town if set off from Wethersfield, and preferred to be an outlying fraction of Republican Wethersfield, than independent as a town under the local rule of the Democratic party, thus placing party above patriotism. Those prominently in favor of the new town were John S. Kirkham, Jared Starr, John C. Tracy, John D. Seymour, Charles K. Atwood, Albert S. Hunn, Edwin Welles, Roger Welles and Martin Robbins, and among the leaders on the other side those most strenuous in opposition were Heman A. Whittlesey, Daniel H. Willard and John M. Belden, and those not so pronounced in opposition were Jedediah Deming and Reuben C. Osborn. A petition to the legislature was drawn up by Mr. Welles and circulated largely by John S. Kirkham, and received 115 signatures of citizens in Wethersfield and Newington in favor of the new town, and also a remonstrance was circulated which was signed by 41 persons. These documents appear to be missing from the State Archives of that session of the Legislature. The petition was referred in the General Assembly to the committee on New Towns and Probate Districts, and a hearing was duly had thereon. The committee reported unanimously in favor of granting the prayer of the petitioners, and submitted a resolution of incorporation, drawn by Mr. Welles, which unanimously passed both Houses, and was approved by Governor Marshall Jewell, July 10, 1871. The news of the passage of the resolution was received at Newington with general rejoicing. Flags were hung out, and a cannon was obtained from the State Arsenal at Hartford, and fired on the Green at the center of the new town, and in front of the houses of those who were prominently in favor of its incorporation, eliciting speeches of congratulation from those thus saluted, which were greeted with cheers from the party of cannoneers. The first town meeting under the act of incorporation was held in the Methodist church in Newington, at 1 o'clock p. m. of Monday, July 17th, 1871, at which the following town officers were elected: John S. Kirkham, *town clerk*; John C. Tracy, *treasurer*; Joseph J. Francis, Albert S. Hunn, Charles K. Atwood, Roger Welles, Jacob Dix, Jedediah Deming, Robert O. Joyner, *selectmen*.

It was voted to borrow money to pay the expenses of incorporation and of record books, and that at the annual town meeting in October, and annually thereafter, only three selectmen should be elected.

At the first annual town meeting held on Monday, Oct. 2, 1871, the former town clerk and treasurer were re-elected, and the three selectmen chosen were Charles K. Atwood, Jacob Dix and Daniel G. Mc-

Lean. They were authorized to settle all matters with regard to the division of the property of the two towns, which duty was satisfactorily brought to an issue, 7 Dec., 1871, by an article of

Agreement of Wethersfield and Newington as to Division of Property, by which the selectmen of said towns also agreed to divide the liabilities of said towns according to the grand lists aforesaid; also to divide the town deposit fund of Wethersfield according to the number of inhabitants of said towns on the tenth day of July, 1870; also to divide the paupers of said towns according to the resolve incorporating the Town of Newington; also that the value of the interest of Newington in said property real and personal (except the town deposit fund) shall be set off against and apply in payment of the share of Newington in the liabilities of said Town of Wethersfield, on the 10th day of July last.

This agreement was carried out in good faith by both parties, and disposed of the assets of the two towns, but the liabilities of Wethersfield as they existed July 10, 1871, occasioned more trouble. The Town of Wethersfield claimed that her expenses in fighting the Town of Glastonbury through the whole of that May session of the General Assembly, and afterwards, should be shared by Newington, although the latter town had no interest in that controversy whatever; and it was claimed on her behalf that she could not be held liable for any expenses in Court or Legislature made after July 10, 1871. An amicable suit brought before the Superior Court and tried in December, 1876, before Judge Hovey, was decided in favor of the contention of Newington. The first representative from Newington to the General Assembly was Charles K. Atwood, who was elected in April, 1872, to the following May session, which was held in New Haven.

Thirty years have elapsed since Newington was incorporated a town. During that period the town has increased in population, has built a town hall, has greatly improved its roads and bridges, has secured a town library and reading room; while an electric road has been located through the center of the town, proving a great convenience to the people. The town has consolidated its school districts, and established a grammar school at the town hall. It commences the new century with bright prospects of future advancement and progress, in its material, educational and spiritual interests.



WILLOW BRIDGE, (CLAYTON), NEWINGTON.

CHAPTER XIX.

Stepney Parish 1722-1822, and The Town of Rocky Hill 1843-1900.

[BY RUFUS W. GRISWOLD, M. D.]

[NOTE, by the Editor. The following chapter is a careful *blending* of the original notes, collected during the past 25 years, from Stepney Parish and other records, and from personal acquaintance with many of the oldest inhabitants of the parish, by the late Dr. RUFUS W. GRISWOLD, the venerable and respected local historian of Rocky Hill; with the original notes on the same subject, found among the papers of the late SHERMAN W. ADAMS, Esq., of Wethersfield, and from which his sketch of Rocky Hill, in the *Memorial History of Hartford County*, was condensed. The interest and labors of both of these students of Wethersfield history were so identical, and their relations to each other so harmonious—that it is almost impossible to divide the honors between them; but, we believe that Mr. Adams himself would have admitted that, in many respects, Dr. Griswold's name was entitled to head this chapter. The Doctor's most honorable and intimate connection with Rocky Hill, for nearly half a century, together, with the great advantages which his profession afforded him, of acquaintance with the oldest persons in the community, enabled him to secure a mass of valuable historic and biographic material, which Mr. Adams, in his lifetime, drew upon freely in the preparation of his Wethersfield history. This manuscript material, Dr. Griswold, during his last years, generously placed at the disposal of the Editor, who has found in it an almost overwhelming "embarrassment of (historic) riches," from which he has faithfully endeavored to cull such items as may form a brief, but satisfactory history of Stepney parish—now Rocky Hill—youngest born of Old Wethersfield.

In a note to the Editor, Dr. Griswold says that his notes were begun about 1870, and were, at first, a jotting down of traditions and reminiscences, gathered from the older people of the town; and, from these as a basis, his quest for further information was extended on more definite lines. About 1880, at Judge Adams' request, who had then undertaken to prepare the history of Wethersfield for the *Memorial History of Hartford County*, he contributed much of the material pertaining to Rocky Hill, which appeared in that work, under Judge Adam's name—though the limitations of space in the *Memorial History* contained much of the matter which had been collected. After this, "by fits and starts," Dr. G. continued to add to what he had already gathered, until in the Spring of 1886, he made an attempt to put into proper shape, the material thus collected. Of this attempt, he well says, "Professional business, the unending calls of respectable livelihood, the petty, but irresistible demands of domestic existence, obliged me to make of this

'labor of love' a 'catch and go' matter, by no means favorable to the coherency and symmetry desirable in a work of this kind. Errors there must be—for, while convinced of the correctness of facts stated, the author could not, even by diligent searching, pin them down to definite dates, and has frequently been obliged to use proximate time. Inferences, also, have been made in some cases, which though unavoidable, are yet within the limits of probability. Much of the information has been gained from the existing Clerk's and Treasurer's records of Stepney parish, from the Church records, Town records and from the Baptismal record kept by Rev. Calvin Chapin, for more than fifty years, of his pastorate, as also from his copy of other records, back to 1765; as well as from several private account books of deceased inhabitants, kindly loaned by their relatives."

It must be remembered that, until 1722, Rocky Hill had no separate parochial existence, and none whatever as an individual town until 1843. Prior to that date, it was a part of the town of Wethersfield, and in the old records, its history cannot be distinguished from that of the older town. Whatever, for example, it may have contributed in the early Indian or French Wars, in the Revolutionary War and that of 1812 (and it furnished its quota to all these) has passed into record as a part of Wethersfield's history. The "lower community" had its full share in all these—but it is well nigh impossible to identify individuals and cull them from the general list."

Among the sources of Dr. Griswold's old time reminiscences and tales, the most important were those of Mr. CHARLES WILLIAMS of Rocky Hill, the youngest son of John and grandson of Elias Williams. Of him, Dr. G. says: "From no other source have I obtained so much information about Rocky Hill matters back to 1800, as from him. For many years he was the local correspondent for the *Conn. Courant*. For more than a score of years before his death, he was so deaf that conversation with him was impossible; and from this fact, perhaps, he was the more observing of passing events. Being a great reader, he watched the newspapers and was fond of writing in correction of, and in addition to, what he read concerning local events, as well as concerning his own recollections."—*H. R. S.*]



Rufus W. Griswold, M.D.



LIBRARY BOOK-PLATE.
In possession of Conn. Historical Society.

RUFUS WOLCOTT GRISWOLD, M. D., the author of this chapter, was born in Manchester, Ct., 20 February, 1825, on his grandfather's (Dr. George Griswold's) place, known as the Mygatt farm. He was descended from Edward Griswold, who came from England to Windsor, Ct., in 1639, (with Rev. Ephraim Huit), as follows: *Edward*, the Emigrant,¹ *George*², b. in England.; *Daniel*,³ *Daniel, Jr.*,⁴ all of Windsor; Dr. *George*,⁵ of Harwinton and Manchester; *Julius I.*,⁶ of Manchester; Dr. *Rufus W.*,⁷ of Rocky Hill. Dr. Griswold's mother was *Ann*⁷ (dau. of *Samuel*,⁶ of E. Htfd.; s. of *Samuel*,⁵ s. of *Ens. John*,⁴ of Hockanum; s. of Sgt. *John*,³ of E. Htfd.; s. of *Joseph*,² s. of *John*¹) *Arnold*, a 1636 settler of Hartford. Until he was 17 years old, the subject of our sketch resided with his gd-father Samuel Arnold, in the southeast part of E. Hartford, and his life was the ordinary one of a boy on a small farm, at that day; going to the district school winters, in the usual fashion, with one summer term at Joseph Taylor's Select School in Glastonbury, Ct. In his 17th years, he entered the office of the *Hartford Times*, where he was four years an apprentice, one a journeyman, and one foreman in the printing office. In March, 1848, he started *The New England Weekly Gazette*, of which he was editor, printer and publisher for two years. Then, in the spring of 1850, he entered upon the study of medicine—and in the four years thus employed depended more or less upon his practical knowledge of the art of printing, and his literary work as newspaper reporter. Of his ventures at this period of his life, he says: "In connection with other parties, I undertook the publication of *The Parthenon*, an illustrated work, designed to be issued in twelve numbers, and to contain papers from some fifty of the most prominent living American authors of the day. In connection with this enterprise, I visited and had personal interviews with Ralph Waldo Emerson, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Henry W. Longfellow, James Russell Lowell and others. The project was not a success. After this, I was one summer in New Britain, Ct., doing editorial work on the *N. B. Journal*, published by O. P. Brown. Going back to N. Y. City, I edited, for a time, a weekly paper called *The Golden Dollar*. In the winter of 1852-53, in addition to attending medical lectures by day, I did night work as a reporter and writer on the *Brooklyn Morning Journal*. The summer of 1853, I spent in service at the Colored Home Hospital, 65th St., and East River; and while there, as previously, wrote a large number of newspaper stories for Dow's *Waverly Magazine*, *The Empire City* and other papers. In the Autumn

of 1853, I edited *The Empire City* for a short time, and all these jobs at pen-driving were mixed in with work "at the case" as a practical printer."

After his graduation, in 1854, from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, he commenced the practice of medicine in Rocky Hill, where he resided until his death, 18th August, 1902; enjoying the respect and confidence of all who knew him, in a successful practice of 48 years. Among his many valuable contributions to medical literature may be mentioned *A History of Malaria in New England*, Conn. Health Board Reports, 1852-'86, and a paper on *The Materia Medica & Therapeutics of One Hundred Years Ago*, pub. in the Centennial volume of the Proceedings of the Conn. State Medical Society for 1892. Of this Society he had been a member since 1854; twice President of the Hartford County Medical Association, and several times represented it as a Fellow, at the meetings of the State Medical Society.

Dr. Griswold possessed strong antiquarian tastes, which his extensive professional acquaintance throughout the county, with its oldest inhabitants and their families, enabled him to indulge—with (as will be seen by this chapter) profitable and interesting results for the benefit of those who are interested in old Wethersfield and Rocky Hill history. He was one of the founders and incorporators of the Conn. Soc. of Sons of the American Revolution, and prominent in its work, until compelled by ill health, a few years before his death, to resign active duty. He was also active in church and town affairs, in school and library affairs, and in fact, in all that pertained to the highest interests of his adopted home. From the spring of 1860, to the Autumn of 1864, he was Town Clerk and Register of Births, Marriages and Deaths; for some 15 years from 1856, one of the Acting School Visitors, until his resignation; for 4 years from 1860, Justice of the Peace; and for many years from 1858, Clerk and Treasurer of the Centre School District; and Treasurer of Rocky Hill Cong. Eccl. Socy., since 1879; notary public for over 20 years; head of the High School Committee (whenever there has been a High School in operation in the town), and in 1883, represented the town in General Assembly, where he was Chairman of committee on Contingent Expenses of the House.

Dr. Griswold left a widow, formerly Esther Eliza, (dau. of Elijah) Hammond, of Vernon, Ct., and three sons, all of whom are practising physicians, all grad. Med. Dept. Univ., City of N. Y., viz.: ROGER M. GRISWOLD, M. D., b. Brooklyn, N. Y., 13 Sept., 1852; grad. 1875; practiced at North Manchester and Portland, Ct., Providence, R. I.,

and now of Kensington, Ct.; EDWARD H. GRISWOLD, M. D., b. Rocky Hill, Ct., 22 July, 1855; grad. 1878; practiced at Niagara Falls, N. Y., and E. Hartford, Ct., and now at Niantic, Ct.; and JULIUS E. GRISWOLD, M. D., grad. 1879, who practised at Glastonbury and Portland, Ct.—[*H. R. S.*]

The First Settlers of the district at south end of Wethersfield, formerly known as Stepney and later as Rocky Hill, have already been mentioned pages 198 and 199.¹

The Establishment of Stepney Parish, Otherwise Known as the Third Ecclesiastical Society in Wethersfield.—The initiatory movement towards the formation of a new parish in the lower, or Rocky Hill portion of Wethersfield, in 1720; its incorporation as such by the General Court in 1722; the fixing of its parochial bounds, and the bestowal of its name in 1723, have been already stated on pages 193 to 199.

Despite the Old World baptismal name of Stepney, thus given to it, it continued to be known, from the first, as Rocky Hill. The hog-back ridge of trap rock, some 300 feet high, which extends from just south of Goffe's Brook to The Landing, was and remains so conspicuous a feature of the landscape, that it could not be ignored and so fitly characterized the region that, in a little time, though the parish was officially Stepney, the name ROCKY HILL began to be applied to all the eastern portion of the south end of the town, and in 1826, became so by legal enactment. This may have been, in some respects, an unfortunate naming for us. There is no doubt that it conveys to the minds of those who are strangers to the place, an erroneous idea of the physical features of the township, viz.: that the $3\frac{1}{4}$ by $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles of territory was about all like the iron-stone hill that overlooks the beautiful meadows at its foot. The name suggests dreariness and desolation; it calls up visions of rugged, unproductive, quartz-bouldered hill-sides, barren in spots and in others overrun with briars and stumpy cedars, a region dominated by rocks and prolific of rattlesnakes, instead of being, as it really is, in its geographical situation and physical features, one of

¹ To the names there given, we may add (from a list of Rocky Hill settlers among Judge Adams' papers) the following, with dates at which they are found on record: Wm. Biggs, 1693; Joseph Butler; Thos. Deming, Sr.; Eliphalet Dickinson, 1697; John Coleman; Joseph Crawford, 1697; Jona. Curtis, 1713; Samuel Dix, 1694; Joseph Grimes, 1705; Lazarus Hollister, 1696; John Reynolds, 1697; Wid. Riley, 1713-14; Jonathan Smith, 1701; Jacob Williams, 1696; Wm. Warner, 1715.

the most beautiful towns in the valley of a river unsurpassed in natural beauty by any stream on this continent. The view from the crown of this trap-rock hill,¹ both as to the foreground of the meadows below and the villages around, as well as in the distance, with the windings of the silver-gray river between; reaching, on the east, to the Glastonbury range of hills; on the north, of the City of Hartford, with its domes and spires; and, further on, the Hoosic chain of mountains, in Massachusetts; swinging thence down to the Talcott mountain, to Southington and Meriden; and, from thence, stretching easterly to the straits below Middletown, is one of unsurpassed loveliness. It presents the charm of pastoral culture and harmonious peacefulness, with suggestions of active prosperity, and well earned abundance. It is a picture of kindly Nature, moulded into new beauty by Agricultural arts; and its tints and colors, of which the eye never wearies, constantly change, in the round of seasons, week by week—almost day by day.

As an abiding name, this hill itself should be known as "Iron-Stone Hill." For the last forty years, it has been designated as "Shipman's Hill" from the fact that the tavern at its foot, on the west side, was kept for some years by Mr. Samuel Shipman, whose land at that point ran up to and over its top. Directly on the top, at this point, is a natural plateau, large enough to accommodate a hotel building, for which the site is unsurpassed. Some 40 years ago, Mr. S. beautified this point to some extent, by planting a double row of shade trees and opening a carriage road to it, up the hill. It is easily accessible also, at other places. This conspicuous feature of the town should not have its name changed in every generation at the whim of every owner.

¹There have been many speculations that *the Rocky Hill* might treasure richer deposits than the trap rock. James G. Percival, physician, poet, geologist, who was born in 1795, in that part of the town of Berlin, which was then Kensington parish and is now New Britain, and who in 1835, was appointed by the Governor to make a geological survey of the state, stated in his published report that he found traces of coal in Rocky Hill. I have not been able to find out exactly at what point this may have been, but wherever it was, the finds must have been very slight. I am doubtful if they were in near relation to the iron-stone ledge, for the two kinds of deposit are not often associated; and coal, if found at all, would more likely be in approximation with the shale which crops out at several points a mile or more to the west of the iron-stone range, say in the neighborhood of the old stone-pit hole three-fourths of a mile west of the Centre corners. About 1850, when this country began to develop the petroleum deposits in the Middle States, there was a bit of excitement right here for a few weeks; and a company was organized to bore for oil along one of the little brooks that are crossed going from the Centre northwest to Griswoldville; and it was claimed that surface indications were favorable; borings were made, but the matter soon "petered through."—*R. W. G.*

An expression in common use for 200 years after the settlement, to designate Rocky Hill, was "the lower community." "How are the people in the lower community?" was a frequent colloquialism, and the answer invariably came back "The lower community is all right!"

The Bounds of the Parish.—The N. bound of Stepney parish was at the corner of the road near the present So. Wethersfield R. R. station, and the natural inference would be that the line ran E. from thence through the meadow, and to the river. But, it is on record, that, in December, 1746, the Inhabitants of the parish, voted: "Upon consideration of the straitness of the bounds of this Society, and the charges increasing more in proportion than the increase or growth of the inhabitants of said Society, by reason of the straitness of the bounds, this Society, therefore, by vote agree to choose Thomas Curtis, John Robbins, Jr., and Daniel Deming, a Committee to petition to y^e old Society in Wethersfield to enlarge the bounds of this Society, and grant that the bounds of this Society may run west, as Beckley road runs until it meets with Newington Society, and then it may run east, beginning at Beaver Bridge and to run from said bridge the same line as y^e highway runs, until it comes to Conn. River; and in case y^e old Society in Wethersfield shall neglect or refuse to grant y^e aforesaid petition, then this Society by vote do empower the Committee aforesaid to petition the General Assembly in May next in order for y^e enlargement of y^e bounds of this Society, as aforesaid; and this Society by vote agree to defray y^e charge that y^e Comm. shall be at in the prosecution of y^e premises."¹ As, in 1754, the same matter was under consideration, it would appear that the Stepney parish folks had not received the desired "enlargement." But, in 1759, it was obtained. At that time the old parish retained all the meadow N. and S. of Beaver, or Goffe's brook, and at the W. all the territory W. of and along about the Shunpike to some now uncertain point S. of the road to Berlin; the parish, at this time, being extended N. to Beaver Meadow road, and at the W. to the Berlin road.

¹ As elsewhere in print, over Dr. Griswold's name, the bounds of Stepney parish were given as follows: "The parish extended N. to the road which runs W. past the So. Weth. R. R. station. From that point the line ran E. to Beaver Brook, which is but a short distance, then followed that stream down to where it meets Goffe's Brook (the two being called 'lower down' Meadow Brook) and on till Meadow Brook enters the Connecticut, a little way above the Ferry. West from Dix's corner, the line ran down the old road S. W. to the neighborhood of the West Meth. Church, and then on towards Beckley Quarter. The parish thus took in a wedge-shaped piece of land now in Weth.; but had nothing of the Great Meadow, nor of a large tract at the West, laying N. of the Berlin road."

Old Roads.—It is worthy of note that the *early roads* laid out in the original town (embracing the four into which it is now divided) were taken from land belonging to the town itself, and not from private owners, so that the *fee* of the soil in all such roads, is still vested in the Town, and is not, in any sense, the property of the owners of the adjoining lots. The claim (generally good) that a man owns to the middle of the road in front of his premises, except for purposes of public travel, does not hold as to ancient town roads in either Wethersfield, Glastonbury, Rocky Hill or Newington. Rocky Hill has hundreds of acres belonging to it *in fee*, which adjoining land owners have appropriated and fenced in. The 20-rod highways have been reduced to four rods, or less. The middle road into Rocky Hill, coming from the crossing at the mattrass shop past the "Old Maid's Place" and E. of the Parsonage land, was laid out in 1680. This was on Town land, as were the several 20-rod highways. The road west from the Curtis corner in So. part of the town to the Berlin line was 20 rods wide; and so, probably, also was the road W. from the West School house; while the road running N. into Newington, E. of Beckley Quarters is still known as "Twenty-Rod highway" and, perhaps, there were others.

At the period alluded to (1754) a movement was made to set off from this parish, its extreme W. end, to the Beckley Quarter section, presumably because there may have been two or three houses there that were within the Stepney parish lines; and a committee was appointed to forward the project. Either then, or subsequently, the extreme end of this town was, for school purposes, set into Beckley Quarter and so continues. The line of the district up E., comes to the neighborhood of "Twenty-Rod highway." Formerly it came farther E., nearly up to the Horace Porter place, but some forty years ago, a new line was made, as it is at present—coming from S., in the line of the road that runs S., into W. Cromwell, West of Cabull Hill, and thence straight N., to the Berlin road.

It has already been seen, from statements in the earlier pages of this work, that the lands originally purchased by the Town of Wethersfield *in common* from the Indians—were from time to time set out to individuals for special purposes—and allotments were made from time to time, in which *all* the land-holding settlers shared. Among other such divisions of the common land, we may especially note, as concerning Stepney parish, one made in 1693, which is fully discussed by Judge Adams in *Appendix V*. The last division of the public lands of

the town was in 1754, which exhausted the "undivided lands," commons and public pastures for cattle and sheep.

Early in the settlement of Wethersfield, cattle were pastured in the commons, under charge of town "herders." About 1650, there was one of these commons in what is now Rocky Hill, probably along the N., line and W., of the middle road. In 1674, a common of 1,000 acres was established here for cattle and sheep. The property west of the Parsonage tract and south of the road to the West District has been known as the "Common lots" till within the past 20 years—and is still sometimes so called. It was not divided until about 1750.

Indian rights.—It is an old tradition in this town [as in Windsor and other Connecticut towns—EDITOR] to within my recollection, that in all transfers of land in Wethersfield from the Indians to the whites, there was either a specified, or an implied agreement that the grantors reserved the right to cut all the basket-timber for their own use that they might want and wherever they chose; and consequently their descendants have rarely, if ever, been interfered with, in so doing.

Meeting-Houses.—The creation of a new parish, meant, of course, the building of a meeting house. It may be reasonably supposed that prior to this time some intermittent religious services had been held at this south end of the town: but, for all stated services its inhabitants had been obliged to resort to the old church at Wethersfield.

The site of the first meeting house is known, but not so the date when it was built. It stood on the highway, in front of the present site of Mr. Wait Warner's barn.¹ As the General Court, in 1723, granted Stepney parish a special exemption from the "country rate," on the grand list of 1722, because of heavy parish charges, it is probable that the construction of the meeting house had been begun in 1722. The

¹ It may be worth mentioning here, that the original intention as to the location of the first meeting house, was to place it in the near neighborhood of what was called "the Stone-Pits"—which is supposed to have been north of the road on the east side of the little stream before one goes up the hill leading to the West District. It was quite the fashion, at that period to put the meeting-house on some commanding site; and what is now known as the Boardman-Holmes property near the Stone-Pits, commands a splendid view to three of the four cardinal points of the compass. It was, also, at this period, expected that the road running south from the brook crossing at Hewett's Pond (So. Weth.) and which comes out in front of the Boardman-Holmes property, would be the main road into the south part of Wethersfield; and that point was also very much nearer the centre of the proposed new parish. But, as the bulk of the population was a mile further east, the idea of that site for the meeting house was abandoned.

earliest record extant, of Stepney parish, is dated April 18th, 1726; and at this date the building had been completed so as to be occupied, excepting the pulpit; Tho. Morton, Jacob and Stephen Williams being at this time chosen to see to the putting up of the latter.

This edifice was a plain wooden building, and as we learn from the parish record, a two story structure. Pews, next to the walls, were built in 1729, also, one for the Minister. Other pews followed in 1730, and galleries in 1732, but these were not furnished with pews. The work seems to have been done by Daniel Edwards, under the direction of the "Grand Committee," the first members of which were Capt. Ephraim Goodrich, Joseph Grimes and Samuel Williams, Capt. Joshua Robbins, Capt. Edward Bulkeley, Jacob Williams and other leading men were members of this Committee. It is evident that, for many years, the accommodations were quite crude. Temporary seats were all that there were in the galleries until 1768, when pews were permitted to be put up in side-galleries alone. There was no provision for heating the building, and the people used only foot-stoves, or heated stones, or pieces of plank, which they brought to church with them to keep their feet warm. Church business meetings, in the winter, were adjourned from the meeting house (which was virtually used as a Town hall,) to some nearby private dwelling. This condition obtained until 1829, in which year Roderick Grimes was paid a bill of \$5.95, for "wood, shovel and tongs," and at the same time, a bill was paid to Manna Woodhouse, of \$6.50, which bills probably mark the introduction of the stove. Thereafter "wood" bills appear regularly upon the records, and wood continued to be used until 1844, when coal was introduced into use in heating the church. The same year the first *insurance* was put upon the building; chimneys were built in 1832. The ceiling of the edifice was plastered for the first time, so far as appears, in 1769, or '70, and then by a special subscription. Meetings, as was the rule generally at that period, were, for many years, called by beat of drum.

The Second Meeting House.—It was during the ministry of Rev. Dr. Chapin, the fourth pastor of Stepney parish, that the second edifice was erected, in 1808. A vote had been passed after an agitation of the subject, commencing in 1805,¹ authorizing its construction, and a piece of land for its site was purchased from Jacob Robbins, at \$2.50

¹ Merriam Williams, writing, under date of 24 Mch., 1805, to his bro. Comfort (then at Yale College) says: "There is a prospect of our having a new meeting-house in this town. The people got a vote for one the first meeting they had for the purpose. * * * There are a few who wish to have a Green extend from the



THE ROCKY HILL CHURCH.

per acre, south of the Academy, just where the turnpike leaves the old road. It was provided that the building should be 60 feet long and 50 feet wide,² and modeled like the one at Middletown. Its frame was raised on the 13th November, 1806, and the edifice dedicated 22d September, 1808; and was furnished with pews, which were removed from the galleries in 1830, and from the main floor in 1842, and slips substituted. In 1843, the spire which had surmounted the tower from the beginning, was taken down and the building considerably repaired, since which time the structure has remained substantially as at present. Some of the timbers of the old (or first) church (which was sold at auction in October, 1808) were used in the present dwelling house of Mr. Samuel Dimock: and were found to be perfectly sound after over 150 years' use. The edifice received its first coat of paint in 1827, (*Chapin Mss.*), again in 1844, the addition of window blinds in 1844, and a reshingling and repainting in 1856.

The cost of this second edifice was a little over \$9,000, in addition to much contributed work. Elijah Ackley seems to have been chief carpenter, Seth Dickinson had charge of the stone work, Josiah Beckley and Wm. Tryon, Jr., furnished the timber mostly; the underpinning and steps were of Portland Stone. A debt was incurred by the edifice which was not wholly paid off until 1850.

The Committee in charge of the erection of this church were Wait Robbins, Joseph Bulkely, Jabez Reilly, Hosea Bulkeley, Richard Belding, Frederick Robbins, William Williams and Simeon Butler.

We must, by no means, forget that the dedication of the new building was preceded by the usual "Seating of the Meeting-House," or as more anciently phrased "Dignifying the Seats." In September, 1808, the house being fully ready for use, a Committee was appointed to "seat the meeting house;" that is, determine who should occupy the respective seats for the year—according to a well defined, but unwritten law of those early days, which took into consideration, the age, dignity, official

Academy to the meeting house, but Mr. Robbins is not willing to part with so much of his land."

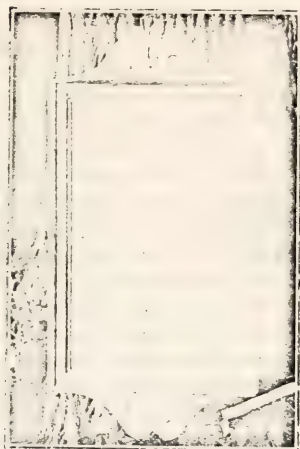
In another letter addressed (2 July. 1807) to the same brother, he writes: "Edward would be very glad to write to you; but his father [Rev. Calvin Chapin] does not like to have him write without he can oversee him, and he is so busy about covering the vane and ball to the meeting house with gold leaf, that he has not time to help him. The vane is 7 ft. long. Mr. Danforth [later the writer's father-in-law] measured the ball with corn, and said it held 36 gallons. It seems now as if there was a prospect of having the meeting-house finished some time; there are a number at work upon it, and they seem to get along considerably fast."

² Dr. Chapin's *Mss.* says, "it is outside 64x50 ft."

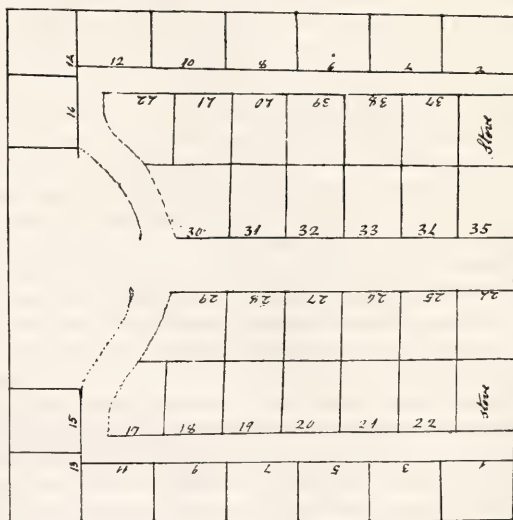
standing in the community, relative wealth, amount of tax paid, etc., etc., by each person. The "seating of the meeting-house" was always a most important and solemn procedure, giving rise not infrequently to much heart-burning jealousy; and often affording "lots of fun" to the gossips of the town. Boys were confined to a special gallery; and such negroes as were supposed to have any souls worthy to be saved, were located in an obscure corner of the house, as far as possible from the pulpit and its sounding-board. As all the property of the parish was taxed for the support of the ministry, it followed that *everyone* was entitled to a free seat in the meeting house; but there was no democratic equality in those days—oh! no! social rank was still scrupulously observed by our forefathers—in these matters—though Jeffersonian Democracy was even then on its way to them.

Parsonage Land.—Stepney parish never had a *parsonage house*, but it had parsonage property. Almost simultaneously with the establishment of the parish, Joseph Grimes, petitioned the Town for 8 acres of land "near the mouth of the lane that comes in by Jonathan Riley's, for our first minister whom we are about to settle" (*Weth. Town Votes*, II, p. 19), which was granted the same day.

In 1726, the Town of Wethersfield ordered that parsonage land be set out to Stepney parish; and the latter released to the Old Society all its right in the estate of the "First and most ancient Society of Wethersfield." The land thus set to Stepney was a good part of the square bounded north on Parsonage Street, east on Russell Street, south on Centre and west on West Street, the amount given being 60 acres. Sixty acres was the quantity asked for by the new parish and is described as being north of the Stone Pits and south of Cold Spring. Cold Spring was the section along Brook Street, north of the road to Griswoldville, or Two Stone, as it was formerly called. There is a spring on the west of Brook Street, one-eighth of a mile north of the Corners from which, and other springs further on, this section obtained its name. Of this the first minister got eight acres in the northeast corner with a northerly front of but a few rods, but extending south nearly halfway the length of the road, as his own property. West of the eight acres given to the minister, the parish kept, until 1850, twenty other acres lying along the north side of the plot, for the use of succeeding ministers of the Society. During the life of the first minister (Mr. Russell), he had the use of some portion of the rest of the property. In 1764, the parish voted him the use of one-half of this land during his lifetime, to lie in common, until a dividing fence could be made. Mr. Russell died soon after this, and in January, 1765, the parish passed



THE INN SIGN OF THE OLD ROBBINS' HOUSE,
Rocky Hill.



PLAN OF THE PRIORY IN OLD STEPNEY CHURCH, before the change to slips, and about 1840. Found among the papers of Mr. Charles Williams, dec'd, 1886.—*R. W. G.*

the following vote: "Voted, to sell the parsonage, all but 20 acres across the N. end (viz.) that Capt. John Warner, John Robbins, y^r 2d, and Elias Williams should have power to set s^d land up at Vendue to be sold at, or to the highest Bidder, s^d Land to be set up at Less than £9 per acre the first bid, and not to be set up more than 8 acres at a time and not less than 4 acres at a time, and to begin at the north part next to the 20 acres that we Reserve for the use of the minister; and there shall be a privilege between the s^d 20 acres and the hind of the Rev. Mr. Russell's Land of one rod wide and acrost those parts that may be purchased the northern parts, to extend so far South as those that purchase shall Desire, those that want it to give for that as they bid of the other Land, they fencing on the west side of the gangway, and those that purchase to do half of the fence next to Mr. Russell's heirs and next to Nath'l Robbins against their own: and after said land is sold, the above mentioned persons shall have power to secure it for the term of 999 years—they that purchase to make over said Land to the Society, and to put in about as much more land, or a Bond of about the same sum for a surety that they will pay the lawful interest yearly, and that the interest shall become due upon the first day of December annually and that every one that said land is bid off to, shall put in a forfeiture of one shilling on the pound either in cash, or a note, for all such sums as they shall bid off amount to, to bind them to fulfill their parts."

It was also voted that "if any person or persons that shall bid off the parsonage Land shall pay the principal sum, that then ye above Comm'te, or their successors, shall have power to let out said money, taken [ing] Double Security for the same in Lands, or Bondsmen."

Under these votes, a large part of the property was leased. In 1771, upon the petition of Samuel Russell, son of Rev. Daniel (and who seems to have come into the possession of the 8 acres given his father, and who had taken some of the land put up at vendue) asking to be relieved from his venture, the Society voted to so release him, upon conditions as to interest, etc., and also that he should allow and secure to the Society a highway of one rod wide across the south end of his 8 acres, to be properly fenced.

It would appear from the first of the above quoted votes, that Nathaniel Robbins owned some part of the land included in the square, of the parsonage land: but, at which corner, cannot be ascertained.

All of this land was not disposed of at the first vendue, as appears from the following Society vote, in 1771. "That the Com'tee that was appointed to lease out the parsonage land should set the land up to

a vendue, and set it up at £9 per. acre; and if it wont fetch more, not to sell it; but to Improve it some other way: but, in case any person bids it off, s^d Com^{tee} to have power to Lease it out y^e same term of time y^e other parsonage land was leased for, taking the same security if they Caint no better." In December of the same year, the Committee were empowered to lease the property at £8; but it seems as though under this last vote, the remaining portion of the parsonage land was disposed of (the 20 acres before mentioned, excepted): as there is no further vote on record in relation thereto—except as to the 20 acre piece.

From the lease of this parsonage property, and the payments on the principal for which it was disposed of, there was created a fund for the Society's use, to which occasional reference is made on the records. The care of real estate, the improvement of the land and its fencing, etc., seems to have been a deal of trouble to the parish; and it is probable that the interest from the proceeds of its sale was better than the returns from the land itself. In August, 1807, while the new church was being builded, and the Society was availing itself of every possible source of income, it was "Voted, that all the public money belonging to this Society be sold, provided it will sell for the full value, and the money be appropriated towards the expenses of build'g the new Meeting House, and that Mr. Frederick Robbins, the Society Treasurer, be impowered to sell the same and pay over the Money to the Com^{tee} for building the said Meeting house." By the term "public Money" here used, was meant the notes, or other securities which had been taken for the sale of the parsonage land (*minus* the 8 acres given Mr. Russell and the 20 acres reserved for his successor). The amount of interest at that time received from this parsonage land (and which come from loan certificates and notes) was \$88.42 per year. And thus departed the parsonage land, except the 20 acres on the north side, which continued in use for the ministry until 1850, when it was leased to Wm. W. Warner for \$860—for a term of 999 years.

Requests to the Church Society.—In 1768, the Church records show a vote of Thanks to JONATHAN BULKELEY for an "elegant flagon" presented to the Church by him—probably for Communion uses. This was Jonathan (son of Edward) Bulkeley, and he was part owner of the "Dividend Mill," and died in 1776, aged 64.

In 1781, GERSHOM (brother of the above Jonathan) BULKELEY, received the thanks of the Stepney Church for "a proper napkin"—to be used probably for communion purposes, or at baptisms. This donor died 1806, age 87.

Mrs. MERCY (second wife of Mr. Josiah) GRISWOLD, of Rocky Hill, and who died 3 Nov., 1819, left by will to the Ecclesiastical Society of Stepney, the sum of £100=\$333.33—which sum has always been loaned out at interest. In the words of the will it was devised “for the sole use and support of a minister in said Stepney Society, of the Congregational or Presbyterian denomination, and to no other use or purpose whatever.” See, also, our Chapter on Rocky-Hill, Physicians, and Midwives, of which latter, Mrs. Merey Griswold was a noted representative.

RACHEL LEWIS, for many years a resident of the town and a member of Rev. Dr. Chapin's family, died 9 Oct., 1819 aged 57, and by will bequeathed “a sum of money, not exceeding \$130 for the purpose of procuring suitable furniture for the Communion table,” etc. The communion service procured under this bequest was first used May 6, 1821, and is still in use. The gift remains on loan, and the Church gets the interest.

MARY ROBBINS, the youngest and the survivor of four daughters of Richard Robbins, whose home was on Brook St., north of the old Parsonage Corner, and who died May 1855, gave by will to the Rocky Hill Ecclesiastical Society \$600. These sisters, Rhoda, Rachel, Abigail (“Nabby”) and Mary (“Polly”) were known as “the Old Maids” and their home as “the Old Maids place.” Mary died at the age of 73. This fund of \$600 which she left, and of which the Society came into possession in 1858, was invested in Hartford bank-stock and by stock dividends the six original shares have become eight full shares, the interest of which accrues to the Society's purposes.

Church Fashions, Manners and Accommodations.—It was not until 1766 that men and their wives sat together in the meeting-house; and it was not done even then without the sanction of a special vote, applicable only to those who had the dignity of “pews.” The old house of worship had, at first, only benches of a rude sort; from time to time, and extending over a period of many years—even to the latter years of the old meeting-house buildings, pews were put in, a few at a time. Except in these, the men and women sat apart. Down to as late as 1855, at Conference and other meetings, and similar gatherings, the men sat on one side of the house and the women on the other. The first break in this custom, was made in 1856, by Dr. Rufus W. Griswold's taking a seat with his wife. “Age, Estate, and qualification” were respected, in this old custom of seating (or, as it was sometimes called “dignifying”) the meeting-house; for it was a period when if the Clergyman, the Squire, or the Doctor passed along the road, every

boy they met took off his hat and "made his manners," or if a girl, "dropped a curt'sy." In the same year (1766) it was voted that all young men over 18 and young women over 16 should be "seated"—the first intimation that, in this parish, males and females of those respective ages were not children. Children at that time, did not sit with their parents, as now, but were kept apart under the watchful eye of some deacon, or tythingman. In 1768, this seating of young persons was extended so as to apply to males of 21 and females of 18; and about the same time, also, was adopted the new notion of allowing persons to "choose" their seat-mates—that is, allowing the heads of families to agree to occupy together—enough of them to fill up some fixed pew, which they preferred. Yes, though this custom subsequently prevailed to some extent, they, none of them, abated one "jot or tittle" of their "dignity."

As evidence of the importance attached to this matter, we cite a vote passed in 1756, "*Voted*, that Lieut. Thomas Curtis should sit in the corner pew, next the sixth pew". Also "*Voted*, as followeth: the fore-seat next the great pew, the corner-pew next, the second-seat next, the new pew next the great alley, and the pew next the corner-pew, to be equal; the pew west of the door next; the north pew, the pew next to Mr. Russell's to be next; the north pew by the stairs next; the third seat equal to the north new pew."

Illustrative of the care taken as to the young men in meeting-time, in those days, the following vote from Wethersfield records may be quoted—for the same "oversight" was maintained there as here.

At a town meeting Lawfully assembled in Wethersfield on the 6th day of Jvly, Anno Domini 1710;—At this meeting Sergt. Nathl. Staddart and Jabez Whiteley, were chosen to take the oversight of the youth that sit in the lower part of the meeting house, viz. all the youth that sit below, and James Bytler chosen to have the oversight of the youth that sit in the galleries, these persons to have the care and oversight of ym. for one year or more, to endeavor the keeping of ym. in a due order, and that they take especially care that said youth sanetifie the Sabbath that they make no distrvrbence in the time of prblic worship."

The *pews* in the Meeting house were mostly square pen-like structures, rather high, with seats around the sides. The top rail of these sides were ornamented with top-shaped wooden balls: and when the pews were taken out of the edifice, at a later day, these ornaments naturally fell to the boys of the parish—every boy had his "meeting-house top." Says Dea. Jared G. Dimock (who was five years old when the meeting-house was cleared of its pews) "We all had tops then, and they were *good* ones,

too!" Many of the pews had small tables in the centre, for holding Bibles and hymn books.

Bell.—In the olden times, the "drum beat" was the ordinary method employed by the "church militant" to call its votaries together to occasions of worship.

Church Music.—During Rev. Mr. Russell's ministry the singing of Dr. Watts' Version of the Psalms was introduced into the service of this Church in 1756, by a parish vote.

It is interesting to note that at a meeting of the then newly organized Stepney Society, held Dec. 5, 1726, it was "*Voted*, that our annual Society meeting, shall begin at eight o'clock in the morning, att the beat of the Drum, any former vote to the contrary, notwithstanding."

Again, January 1728, "Then we subscribers, agreed with Elihu Dixenson for the sum of 24 shillings to take care of y^e Meeting house and to sweep s^d house for this year ensuing and to beate y^e Drum 3 times on each Sabbath day throughout this year, and also to beat y^e Drum for callin together inhabitants att the Society Meetings"—(signed) Edward Bulkeley, Joseph Grimes, Comm. and Elihu Dixinson.

And the drum probably supplied the want of a bell for many, many years after this date. In 1830, a bell was placed on the Church; and with it a *Clock*, which was always known as the Town Clock, because it was purchased by a general subscription among the people at large. It had a striking attachment and did good service until about 1865, and, off and on, for a few years later—since which it has been idle.

The "curfew bell" of our English ancestors, became in New England the "nine-o'clock" evening bell in many parishes—some of which still continue its use—as also for calling the people to weekly evening prayer meeting, and marking the advent of "noon". The bell was also used, with scrupulous exactitude, for "tolling" the death of any inhabitant of the town—viz. the "attention call," then the "sex" and then the "age", as also the "passing bell" as the hour of burial—a custom continued up to about 1880, since which it has gradually fallen into disuse. Notice of Sabbath service has been given at a little past nine A. M., with the "meeting-bell" an hour and a quarter later: Day-services, both forenoon and afternoon, were continued up to about 1873: and from 1830 there was also an evening service; since 1873, however, the afternoon service has been omitted—the morning and evening services alone remain.

Not long after the introduction of the bell, the "rising generation" began to ring it on the mornings of the "Glorious Fourth", The "morning" was sometimes construed by them to begin at "sunrise", sometimes again at 12 o'clock on the night of the 3rd and kept up until sunrise.

This "too previous" commencement of the Fourth was always more or less of an annoyance to the villagers, and at times has been the occasion of struggles between the Church Committee or some individual on the one side, with the "irrepressible boy" on the other. Generally, the Church Committee has been rather lenient with the boys in their fun; at other times they have frowned upon it—usually, however, with the same result—that strategy on the part of the boys has accomplished the coveted end. When a church door key could not be surreptitiously obtained, the boy has climbed the lightning rod; when the rope has been removed by a watchful sexton, the youthful invader has reached the belfry and swung the tongue of the bell; and when the tongue itself has been removed, some ingenious boy has forged a new one at the smithy. Sometimes the sexton has been intimidated, sometimes pelted with rotten eggs until he fled the ground. If, as not often chanced, the offender was arrested, he was never convicted. At the Centennial of our National Independence, 1876, this church-bell 4th July bell-ringing almost culminated in a riot.

Ministers.—The Congregational Church in Stepney afterwards known as the *Third Ecclesiastical Society in Wethersfield*, was organized, June 7, 1727, and on the same day the REV. DANIEL RUSSELL was ordained and installed. He was the seventh of the nine children of Rev. Noadiah Russell of Middletown, Ct., who had been one of the founders of Yale College, and also one of the authors of the Saybrook Platform. The son Daniel was born June 3rd, 1702; graduated at Yale College, 1724; and was guided in his theological training by his brother William, who had succeeded to his father's pulpit in Middletown. His salary was fixed at £80 a year, or £60 and the use of the parsonage property, for the first four years, to be increased at the rate of £5 per year, until it amounted to £100 (\$333.33); and at this figure the minister's salary continued until, in 1847, a colleague was engaged for Rev. Dr. Chapin. The parish also voted Mr. Russell, for himself and heirs, eight acres of the parsonage land, as one of the conditions of his settlement; and £160 (to be paid partly in work) towards building him a house. This was erected upon the N.E. corner of the eight acres aforesaid, and remained until some seventy-five years ago. The tax for the minister's support was to be paid partly in grain, or other farm produce, at fourpence, (6½ cts.) for corn, fivepence for rye and sevenpence for wheat. About 1750, or earlier, there began to be such a depreciation in the paper currency that the representative of the silver dollar had a less purchasing power than before, so that, by 1755-6, its value was only that of a sixth of a dollar. Mr. Russell was at this

time, receiving £600 a year in paper money. Directly after this came a "New Emission" which seems to have been of the same value as silver, so that the minister's salary went back to the old figure. Later still, there was another disturbance in the circulating medium, and when Mr. Lewis (third Stepney Minister) was settled, in 1781, his salary was put at £50 silver, or its equivalent. At this time, the silver dollar was worth several of the Continental currency, and the purchasing power of £50 silver was likely as good as that of £100 in the second quarter of that century.

Mr. Russell, on the 13th of November, 1728, married Lydia, daughter of George and Rebecca Stillman. By this wife, who died Sept. 3rd, 1750, the Rev. David had ten children. He married (2) July 29, 1752, Catharine, daughter of Rev. Nathaniel and Sarah Chauncey, of Durham, Ct. The Rev. Daniel Russell's earthly labors were closed by death, September 16th, 1764, in the 38th year of his pastorate. He was buried by a grateful church, and the inscription on his tombstone reads thus:

"Here lies Interred the Remains of the Rev^d Mr. DANIEL RUSSELL, who wisely and faithfully fulfilled his ministry for more than 37 years with a shining pattern of piety in his Christian and Ministerial Character and fell asleep the 16th of Sept. A. D., 1764. Aged 62 years."

His widow, Catharine survived him some thirteen years, dying Jan. 10th, 1777, aged 71.¹

"The first members of the church," says Rev. Dr. Chapin, "were Joshua Robbins, Jonathan Curtiss, Benjamin Williams, Jacob Williams & David Goodrich. It is added, "Admitted then"—Joseph Deming, Richard Robbins & Jonathan Boardman Here is an ambiguity. My opinion, however, is that the former five were taken as already members of a church, and here constituted without repeating the confession of faith and covenant; and that the latter three had never been members of any church.

"The following members were received soon after by letters from Wethersfield:—Mary Boardman, Jerusha Goodrich, Dorothea Bulkeley, Sarah Robbins, Zebina Smith, Hepzibah Curtiss, Sarah Holmes, Hannah Wright, Eunice Williams, Sarah Ruby, Comfort Morton, Mabel Boardman, Abigail Deming, Hepzibah Goodrich, Elizabeth Hollister, Abigail Williams & Anna Holmes. From Glastonbury, Abraham Goodrich.

¹ Acknowledgments due to Rev. Frank Russell, of Bridgeport, Ct.; Boyd's *Annals of Winchester, Conn.*, p. 291.

"The foregoing 26 names are all that are found in near connection with the formation of the church. Whether the whole number must be understood as having been received the same day or not does not appear; but probably not.

"It seems impossible to obtain a complete history from the papers of Mr. Russell. There is no extant evidence that he had a book of records. His journals are found on leaves very slightly fastened together. They are consequently torn, ragged, mutilated. Words and proper names are gone. Whatever may have been the chirography, the ink was either bad at first, or of such a quality that it has at least in some instances faded almost to disappearance. Hence his memoranda are unintelligible. Hence, too, a possible incorrectness, especially among the personal names above written. In such cases the names here expressed are merely conjectural.¹

"The instrument known as the *Confession of Faith & Covenant*, as used in the earliest existence of this church cannot be found entire. The portions of it which do now appear among the loose papers remaining show that it was, we can believe, needlessly prolix, & therefore tedious. In 1781 it was altered by the church; but whether shortened at all does not appear. It was certainly very long, & to invalids it must unquestionably have been tiresome and consequently unedifying.

"In 1797 the following form was adopted by this church, viz:—
 'You do now, with solemnity, in the presence of God & of these witnesses, receive God in Christ to be your God—one God in three persons. Father. Son & Holy Ghost. You declare it to be your belief that the Scriptures of the Old & New Testaments are the revealed word of God: & you promise by divine grace, to make them the rule of your life & conversation. You own yourself—yourselves—to be by nature a child—children of wrath; & you solemnly declare that, truly repenting of all your sins, as you humbly trust, you hope for pardon & salvation through the atoning sacrifice & mediation of Jesus Christ alone. Him you now publicly profess to take for your Lord & Savior, your prophet, priest & king. You give yourself—yourselves—away to him, to be governed, guided & eternally saved. You promise, by divine grace, regularly to attend all the ordinances of the gospel as God shall give you light & opportunity. You also promise to submit to the rules & government of Christ in this church so long as you shall continue in this place. You thus solemnly profess to believe & covenant with God & his church.' "

¹ *Ms.*, Sketch of the 3rd Eccl. Soc. of Weth. (Stepney Parish), now in possession of the Conn. Historical Society, written about 1840.

After Mr. Russell's death, the Rev. Eliphalet Webster preached in this parish for a time.

The Rev. BURRAGE MERRIAM, (graduated Yale College, 1762) who for some time previous had been a colleague to Mr. Russell, succeeded him, being ordained and installed 27 February, 1765.¹ He is supposed to have come from Meriden; and but little information concerning him remains to this day—except that the Church Records seem to have begun during his incumbency. He died November 30, 1776. He builded the two-story gambrel roofed house now owned by the Walter Warner heirs, on the East side of the road, opposite the Capt. Webb place, formerly the Capt. Wm. Griswold house. This lot extended north to the land of Walter Robbins, including the land on which now stand the houses of E. N. Warner, Benjamin Webb, the small house north and the Ryer Hotel.

In addition to the salary voted to a minister it had always been the custom of the period from 1700, or earlier, for a century on, to make "a settlement" on a pastor, when he entered upon parish service. In accordance with this custom, Mr. Merriam had £200 voted to him, in two instalments of a year apart; also the use of twenty acres, on the north side of the parsonage property. This lay next to the east and west road, and west of the north end of the eight acres which had been given outright to Mr. Russell. The balance of the parsonage property, as appears from the annual votes of the Society, was leased out to parties for improvement, the income arising therefrom being used to make up any deficit in the minister's salary. In addition to these sources of ministerial support, the clergyman was always supplied with wood—generally described on the record as "good green wood," sometimes with the addition "hickory or white wood." The amount carted to Mr. Russell was from 25 to 28 cords; Mr. Merriam got a little less, and Mr. Lewis, from 14 to 20 cords, as his family wants increased.

After Mr. Merriam's death, Messrs. the Revs. Gershom Bulkeley, Fuller, Atkins, Lyman and Wolcott preached here; and the parish extended "a call" to a Mr. Baldwin, which, however, was not accepted.

The Rev. JOHN LEWIS was the *third minister* of Stepney. He was from Southington, Ct., and was installed here 24 January, 1781,² receiving the same salary as his predecessor. He was a graduate of

¹"Hartford, March 4 [1765]. Last Wednesday, the Reverend Mr. Burrage Merriam was ordained to the Ministerial office over the Church and Congregation, at Stepney, in Weth. The Reverend Mr. Eells of Middletown preached a Sermon on the Occasion."—*Conn. Courant*.

²"Hartford, Jan. 30 [1781, Tuesday]. Last Wednesday, the Rev. John Lewis

Yale, 1770, had been a tutor there from 1773-'78 and was esteemed as a man of much learning. His wife was Mary, a daughter of Col. Leverett Hubbard, of New Haven. He built the house in Rocky Hill, afterwards owned and occupied by his successor, Dr. Chapin—who speaks of him as “a first rate scholar and minister.”¹ He died 28th April, 1792.² His one published Sermon was entitled: “*Christian Forbearance to weak Consciences a Duty of the Gospel.*” The substance of two Sermons, preached at Stepney Parish in Wethersfield. By John Lewis A. M., Hartford. MDCCLXXXIX, 8 vo., 42 pp.

His letter giving an account of the Whirlwind in Wethersfield in Aug., 1787, gives the impression that he was a close observer; and that he possessed, what in these days would be called, a decidedly “scientific turn of mind.” Dr. Chapin, his successor says:—“He appears to have delighted in classical study & attainments. He compiled and published in pamphlet form a copious selection of sentimental sayings found in the writings of men pre-eminent thousands of years ago. He was a decided believer in the correctness—as he understood divine revelation—of that anomaly in the church usually denominated ‘the half-way covenant.’ He published a labored essay in defense of his views upon this subject. When he was removed by death he left the people very unanimously & strongly attached to that practice.”

After his death, the pulpit was supplied for a time by the Rev. Benjamin Boardman, and a Mr. Brown.

The *fourth minister* of Stepney and the one, who more than any other of the series, possessed a reputation extending beyond the bounds of his own parish, was the Rev. CALVIN CHAPIN, D.D. He was a descendant, in the fifth generation from Dea. Samuel Chapin, from England or Wales, an early and very prominent settler at Springfield, Mass., and who, after a life of Christian activity and usefulness, died in 1675. The subject of our sketch born 22 July, 1763, was the fourth of six sons, of Dea. Edward Chapin of the same town, a man of public spirit and, as his wife was also, of exemplary piety. This

was ordained to the work of the Ministry, over the Church of Christ in Stepney, a parish of Weth.—*Conn. Courant*.

¹ See Sprague's *Annals of the American Pulpit*, ii, 324, Note.

² “On Tuesday last, were interred the remains of the Rev. JOHN LEWIS, Pastor of a Church in Weth. The appearance of the Congregation convened for religious service on that occasion was a proof of how much they loved him. Mr. Lewis died in the 46th year of his age and the 12th of his Ministry, and has left an afflicted widow, and five small children. By his death, Science has lost an Ornament; Humanity a Friend; the family a tender husband and parent, and the Church of Christ a Pastor who wished to approve himself to his Master, and the Consciences of all men.”—*Conn. Courant*, May 7, 1792.

son, as may be supposed from the name which they gave him, was especially devoted by them to the Christian ministry. His early years were spent upon his father's farm, and his early preparations for college met with several interruptions, one of which was the Revolutionary War, in which, for a time, he served as a fifer, being then about ten or twelve years old. In the autumn of 1784 he entered Freshman at Yale, being distinguished through his college course for his studiousness; and won, also, the Berkeleian prize, known at that day as the "Dean's bounty." He graduated, one of the best scholars in his class, in 1788; and opened a school in Hartford, Ct., which achieved much popularity, and which he conducted for two years. Then, having undergone a great moral change, deeper than his previous speculative belief in the truths of the Christian Religion, he conceived the idea of entering the ministry, and commenced the study of theology under Rev. Dr. Perkins, of Hartford, of whose church he became a member. Still continuing his school, he pursued these studies for some time, and was finally licensed to preach, by the Hartford North Association. About the same time he was elected a tutor of Yale College¹—upon the duties of which office he entered in the autumn of 1791, and discharged them with good satisfaction, both to the faculty and students until his resignation in March, 1794, to take the pastoral charge of the church at Stepney, where he was ordained and installed April 30th, 1794.² He was never dismissed; preached to his congregation until Thanksgiving Day, 1847, and his official and pastoral connection with them terminated only with his death, in March, 1851.

On February 2nd, 1795 he was married to Jerusha, daughter of Rev. Dr. Jonathan Edwards, of New Haven, Ct., Dr. Chapin's "settlement" was £200 lawful money, to be paid, in quarterly instalments, within four years. His salary was fixed at £100 per year, and the use of 20 acres of parsonage land. After his retirement from the pulpit, this 20 acres was hired by Moses W. Williams until its final lease, in 1850, to William W. Warner.

Soon after he entered upon his ministry, it became evident that his influence was not to be limited to his own parish. In 1803, he was elected a Trustee of the Missionary Society of Connecticut, and during the 26 years in which he held that office, he attended no less than 72 meetings of the Board. In 1806, difficulties occurring in Northwestern

¹ And as such he had the educational charge of Jeremiah Day, afterwards President of the College.

² Discourse delivered at the Ordination of the Rev. Calvin Chapin to the ministerial office in the Third Church of Wethersfield in the Parish of Stepney, April 30, 1794. By Nathan Perkins, A. M. Hartford, MDCCXCIV, 8 vo., p. 38.

Ohio, in the Society's operations, Mr. Chapin, though the youngest member of the Board, was delegated to ascertain and settle the trouble, whatever it was—a service which he performed to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. The extensive tour which this involved, served greatly to enlighten him as to the self-denial and hardships of a missionary life, and to enlist his sympathies in the cause of Missions. In 1809 he was a foremost promoter, both with his pen, and as a traveling agent, of the Conn. Bible Society. In 1813, he was similarly active in the organization of the Conn. Society for the Promotion of Good Morals; in 1810, he was one of the five, who projected and formed the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and was its first (and for 32 years) Recording Sec'y. He was one of the visitors of the Andover Theological Seminary, and Clerk of its Board for 15 years, and until by age limitation, he had to resign it. In 1816, he was made Doctor of Divinity by Union College and in 1820, was elected a member of the Corporation of Yale College, of which he was a most efficient member until his resignation in 1846.

In November, 1847 he retired from active service, to give his people an opportunity to choose a successor. This, however, was not effected until July, 1850, when the Rev. Lebbeus B. Rockwood was settled as colleague pastor.

A Rev. Philo Judson was hired as a supply and candidate for some time. He was, however, well along in years and not wholly acceptable, being somewhat eccentric; but he was of service in the pulpit, and the instrument of many conversions. He remained in Rocky Hill and followed the book agency business; and died in the Hartford Hospital, in March, 1874; was bu. in the extreme N. W. cor. of the present cemetery, where no stone marks his grave.

On May 5, 1844, Dr. Chapin preached his 50th Anniversary Sermon. The Church had then been organized 117 years; it began with eight members; at the time of his installation it had twenty-seven; in the intervening period there had been 591 admitted to membership; and the number then (1844) in the church, was 244.¹ He had then baptized 939 persons; married 435 couples and attended 898 funerals, and administered the sacrament between 500 and 600 times. As he con-

¹ A memorandum of Mr. Chas. Williams makes this 298. Also that before the end of his active service he had made up the number of marriages performed by him to 430, also that there were then but three persons who belonged to the Church where Dr. C. was ordained. There were at the time of his coming here, 90 married couples in Rocky Hill village, every one of which had been divided by death, "and only 3 couple living who were married by Dr. Chapin—one of which was Mr. Chas. Williams and wife."

tinued in active service for some three years later than the date of his Anniversary Sermon, these figures must have increased.

Within a few weeks after his resignation as sole pastor, his wife, with whom he had lived nearly 53 years, was taken from him by death. He preached for the last time on the last Sabbath in December, 1850: and worshipped in the sanctuary with his people March 9th, six days before his death which occurred March 16, 1851, aged 87 years. Two Sermons were preached on his death, one by Dr. Tucker, of Wethersfield, the other by Dr. Hawes of Hartford, both of which were printed.

Dr. Chapin was justly esteemed as one of the foremost advocates of the Temperance Cause. In 1812 he first advocated the principle of entire abstinence from ardent spirits. Up to that time he had kept his sideboard well supplied, as was the custom of those days, with liquors. From that date he abolished them in his personal use and family.¹ And, in 1826, he published a series of articles in the *Christian Observer*, in favor of the abstinence from *all* that intoxicates.² This ruled out the use of *cider*, of which, hitherto, he had annually manufactured a very superior article, from his own orchards.³ Indeed, his usual earnestness

¹ *The Rocky Hill Temperance Society*, founded in 1819, of which Rev. D. Chapin was president and Dea. Israel Williams, secretary, issued in October of that year a Constitution, from which we quote the following excellent articles:

"IV. We will regulate our practice by the principle that neither hospitality, nor politeness, nor civility requires us to give ardent spirits, either to visitors or neighbors, relatives or strangers."

V. In selecting laborers whether for work in the house, or on the farm, or in the shops or anywhere else, we will give the preference to those persons who are willing to labor without ardent spirits, and we will carefully discountenance the use of such liquor as drink by those whom we employ.

VI. We will let it be understood and known by the people who are to labor for us, that we do not wish them to be more weary at the close of the day than they would be were we to give them ardent spirits, and that they may expect to receive their wages in full, even if they shall have done less work in consequence of this abstinence. We will thus prove that our object is not to save money for ourselves, or to do harm unto others, but to testify unto all concerned that no lawful employment requires such drink, and that the use of it is both needless and dangerous."

It took *courage* to subscribe to such a statement in the year of our Lord 1819!

² This was probably the result of his Missionary trip, before alluded to, through the Western Reserve (Ohio), 1826, on which he published a pamphlet giving the observations on the too free use of whiskey in that section.

³ Mr. Charles Williams says: "These pieces, short but comprehensive, attracted much attention and were continued weekly for at least two years. After it became known who the writer was, he put his temperance principles in active operation, by rolling three or four barrels of cider from his cellar and spilling them on the ground. For several years previous to this, his people used to turn out in the Spring and give the good Doctor a "spell" in cutting up his firewood, etc. He always, on such occasions, brought out pails of nice cider and baskets of apples, which made these occasions quite popular, and often fifty or seventy people attended.

in whatever he undertook, carried him to the very bottom of the evil—to such a degree as led him to induce his people to exclude wine from the communion table, and substitute water therefor. This was in June, 1843. It may be assumed that the majority of the Church members voted for the substitution; but there were some so opposed to it that they preferred to accept the sacrament in other churches than their own, on Communion Sabbaths. The disaffection went so far, and made so much trouble in the church, that, in January, 1846, after the adoption of a long set of "Whereases", in which the disgust of the old Doctor is very manifest, the Church compromised on a newly manufactured "pure fruit of the Vine", instead of *wine*; and passed the following: "*Whereas*: a drink is offered in market for sacramental use, and publicly and solemnly declared to be "fruit of the vine" *unadulterated and pure*; and,

"*Whereas*; hope is indulged that the sacramental use of *that* drink will satisfy and unite all the communicants", therefore

Resolved, That * * * * the officers of the Church shall consider themselves authorized and requested to procure and present it in the cup for the Lord's Table", and the dissenting members were invited back to their home communion. Mr. Solomon Griswold, who was a determined opponent of Dr. Chapin's views in this matter, addressed letters to the Congregational ministers of the neighboring parishes, requesting their views as to this new departure; and from sixteen (nearly all to whom he wrote) he received replies unanimously condemning the innovation. Yet, it may not be presumptuous to enquire, if Dr. C. was not in the right? Earlier than any of his parishioners, or of his clerical brethren his eyes had been opened to the evils lurking in the wine cup, "when it is red". Doubtless he saw that in some instances the sacramental drink, blessed though it had been for the holy purpose of its institution, became a stimulating incitement to unfortunate indulgence, and set fire to an appetite which could only be subdued by an absolute refusal to touch, taste or handle. Doubtless, also, he saw that the object of the institution of the Communion service, was simply to preserve *in remembrance* the death of Christ, and that such remem-

But, when the cider stopped, the older people began to lose their interest in the doctor's wood-pile. The doctor's cider was very strong, and made thus: The full barrels were set out on the North side of the barn when cold weather came, and allowed to freeze as solid as possible. A hole was then made through the frozen part to the liquid near the centre—and the liquid part drawn off. It required the unfrozen part of three barrels to make one barrel and this was put into tight casks and kept a year or more before being used—the result was a drink that was, probably, almost as potent as New England rum."

brance could as well be perpetuated in water, as in wine. It was the act and the heart that was in the act, and not the *vehicle* through which this death was kept in remembrance; and the earnest, brave and brainy old pastor who filled the pulpit of Stepney parish for more than fifty years, had the logical acumen to see beyond the mere letter of the translation, into the *spirit* which underlaid the institution of the Last Supper, and upon which all its significance rested. And it was in him to believe that the Soul of Man could lay hold on the Redeemer as acceptably and effectually in the water, as in the wine.

When the Conn. State Temperance Society was formed, in 1829, he became Chairman of its Executive Committee, and in 1835 his Prize *Essay on Sacramental Wines* was published.

Dr. Chapin was also, an early and foremost Abolitionist, and advocated the cause whenever he could do so, without giving offence: "still," says Mr. Williams, "the people liked to hear him talk, although not agreeing with him in sentiment."

Dr. Chapin was distinguished for exactness, enterprise, unflinching *courage, tact* and *humor*. In regard to his independence and courage several striking anecdotes are told in Dr. Sprague's *Annals of the American Pulpit*.

While on this subject, as relating to Rocky Hill, we may also state that among the memoranda left by Mr. Merriam Williams, was a list of names for the years 1819-1823, inclusive, of persons making cider at his mill, near his barn on Elm St. The large apple crop of that period and of more than a hundred years before was not like the winter-fruit of the present. It was mostly for cider, a large part of the trees being on their original stocks, and bearing abundantly of "cider apples". Fifty to a hundred barrels of cider in the cellar was not uncommon among the farmers. Mr. Wait Warner tells me that up to the time he was a young man, (say 1830) a pitcher of water was rarely seen on the table; cider was the usual drink, being used in lieu of tea and coffee, then not so much used as now. In the boarding-houses of the period, the eatables were flanked by pitchers of cider. Large quantities of cider brandy were also made. The price by the barrel (31½ gals.) of cider, say 60 years ago, was 40 cents. Delivered at the still, the farmer got six quarts of brandy, making the latter 26 cents per gallon. New England rum and rye-gin stood in at about the same price, so that the first cost of a drink was much less than now—while the *after cost* may have been just as heavy.

The Doctor's characteristic *tact* (as well as a phase of his *humor*) was shown in an incident related by Mr. Charles Williams, thus, "Dur-

ing the 'Millerite' excitement of 1840, a Mr. Henry A. Chittenden, and an associate from Chicopee, lectured here several evenings, and endeavored to convert people to their faith; and, among other things they determined to convert Dr. Chapin. An afternoon was appointed for their call upon him, and they took the pains to advertise their intention, by speaking of it in public. Of course, some one carried the news to the Doctor, and he was prepared for the visit. The regular meeting of the Millerites this evening had been appointed for 6 o'clock and the two called upon Dr. C. at 5 o'clock, were shown into the study, and after they were seated, the Doctor commenced a conversation with them, he doing the principal part of the talking and he kept it up for the full hour; when the bell rang for their meeting, he stopped short with the remark 'I have done my talking, now if you have anything to say, I am ready to hear you.' The poor visitors, who had not had a chance to 'get in a word edgewise,' had no time to say anything, for the bell was then ringing for their meeting; and so far from making the Doctor a convert, they had not, according to their own statement afterwards, even mentioned the subject on which they had come: yet, both of them declared that they never passed a more interesting hour in their lives than in listening to the Doctor's talk. He afterwards said, when questioned about it, that he did not want to hear 'their stuff' and so concluded to do all the talking himself."

His jovial disposition and ready wit were salient features of his character. This, says Rev. Dr. Hawes, "gave a complexion to a large part of his conversation, I may say, in some degree, to his whole character. It seemed as natural to him as his breath, and even if you had regarded it as an evil, you would have seen at once that it was incurable. It often found vent, I am persuaded, when he himself was unconscious of it, or when a moment's reflection would certainly have repressed it. I might detail many examples of it [Rocky Hill, to-day, is full of examples of this bubbling good humor and quick repartee, which, however, are too local in their character, to be repeated in this history.—EDITOR]—many of his fitting and pungent sayings—but their effect was so dependent upon his peculiar manner, that they would convey a very inadequate idea of the power in this respect, which he actually possessed. I will not dissemble my conviction that this strong original propensity which settled into habit, though it may have been an advantage in some respects, was not, on the whole favorable to his influence as a minister. It sometimes operated as a covering to the real and deep concern which he felt for the spiritual welfare of his fellow-men. He was evidently a devout man, and lived in intimate communion

with God; and you could often see the workings of a truly spiritual mind, blending themselves with the involuntary and irrepressible sallies of his boundless good nature."¹

Dr. Chapin always retained and cultivated his taste for classical studies, and his Latin and Greek books were his life-companions.

It is said that, at some time in his early life, he learned the book-binder's art; and that after becoming the pastor at Stepney, he bound several books, and rebound some of the old and delapidated record books of the parish.

It was a current belief among the old people of his charge, that he had a trace (about an eighth) of Indian blood in his veins; and that he showed this in his countenance and athletic figure and bearing. If so, it certainly did not in least detract from his moral and intellectual force and ability.

Dr. Chapin was acknowledged to be of more than ordinary ability, among the ministers of his generation; and this reputation brought to him, at one time, the offer of the Presidency of Yale College. That he preferred to remain, on a small salary, and in a small town, rather than accept such a position, may seem strange; but it must be remembered that, in his day, there was less difference, than now, between parishes, either as regards the pay given, or the *prestige* of a city pulpit, over that of a country church. The man of brains in the sacred desk was quite as likely to be found in the small place, as in the larger one; and Dr. C. was no inconspicuous example of this. He was, also, much attached to his people and they to him; it was not easy to tear out the roots which had grown him to the soil; and there was also this, that it was, in his day, the rule that the minister should spend his days in the one parish—and it was not much to his credit, if he shifted from one place to another, with the ease of a weathercock.

Dr. Chapin's published works were as follows:

1. *A Sermon delivered at the Ordination of the Rev. Samuel Whitelsey to the work of the gospel ministry in New Preston, Washington, Conn., December 30th, 1807; and at the Ordination of the Rev. Hosea Beckley to the work of the gospel ministry in Dummerstown, Vt., March 2d, 1808.* Hartford, 1808, 8vo., pp. 24.

2, 3. *Two Sermons published in the Columbian Preacher, 1808.*

4. *A Sermon delivered in Hartford, May 18, 1814, before the Conn. Society for the Promotion of Good Morals.* Hartford, 1814, 8 vo., pp. 34.

¹ Sprague's *Annals of the American Pulpit*, II, 329.

5. *A Sermon Delivered 14th of January, 1817, at the funeral of the Rev. Timothy Dwight, D. D., LL. D., President of Yale College, in New Haven, and Professor of Divinity in that Institution; who died January 11th, 1817, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, and twenty-second of his presidency.* New Haven, 1817, 8 vo., pp. 35.

6. *Sermon at the funeral of Rev. John Marsh, in March, 1821.*

7. *Essay on Sacramental Wines, 1835.*

The Revival of 1818.—In 1818, there was a marked religious “revival” in the church and town, during which there was much house-to-house visitation and many “protracted meetings” held by Dr. Chapin and the famous Evangelist Rev. Mr. Nettleton. Among other agencies employed were what were termed “sunrise meetings,” which were largely attended in the early mornings. Mr. Nettleton was here for six months, and there were many conversions. Dea. J. G. Dimock, among his reminiscences of this revival used to relate this story of Nettleton. Among other “anxious souls” on whom he called, was Sally Holmes. “*I shall be lost, I shall be lost!*” was her wail to the preacher. “*You are lost*” was his quick response, and a new light broke in upon Sally and she became converted.

The Rev LERBEUS BURTON ROCKWOOD, colleague to Dr. Chapin, became his successor 10th July, 1850. He was born in Wilton, N. H., August 8, 1816; graduated from Dartmouth College, 1839; studied theology at Andover, Mass., and Union Theol. Seminary, N. Y. City; was ordained in 1845; labored for a time in Richmond, Va., was then engaged for about seven years in raising funds for the Union Theol. Seminary. He resigned from his charge in Rocky Hill in 1859; accepted the District Secretaryship of the Am. Tract Soc. for Conn., in which service he continued until his death at Boston Highlands, Mass., 7 May, 1872. His wife was Abby Ann Abbott; his salary \$600 per year until about the last year of his service here, when it was raised to \$700. He built the flat-roofed house, now (1886) occupied by Mr. Roe, on the south side of Prospect Street, overlooking the meadow; and back of it he set out an orchard running back to New Street.

Mr. Rockwood was succeeded by Rev. GEORGE MUIR SMITH, a native of Scotland, April 9, 1859; a graduate of Edinburgh and New Haven Theological Schools; he married while here, the widow of Clarence R. Cordis. He preached here until June 24, 1863, and removed to Lenox, Mass., and in 1886, was settled in Sterling, Scotland. His salary here was \$600 per annum; after leaving Rocky Hill, he was settled at Boston Highlands, Mass.

His successor was the Rev. HENRY FORD, a native of Binghamton, N. Y., who preached here from the spring of 1864, to that of 1867. He came from Stamford, Ct., had studied theology in New York City; went hence to Norristown, Pa., and in 1886, was in Jersey City, N. J. His salary was about \$600.

The Rev. MERRICK KNIGHT was next installed, November 6, 1867, and continued until March 13, 1872. His salary was \$700.

From January, 1873, to the autumn of 1877, the Rev. WM. P. FISHER was pastor; salary \$1,100. At the time of his coming here, the parish felt itself in a prosperous condition, with a good outlook ahead. The railroad, then just finished, had brought in many new inhabitants, new houses were being erected, etc., but the seeming prosperity subsided in about two years; and, on his last year's salary, Mr. F. remitted \$300. He was a native of Canada, a graduate of Amherst College, 1866, and studied theology in Union Theol. Seminary, N. Y. City and in Germany. Previous to his coming here he had been preaching to a Presbyterian Church at Norwood, N. J., and from here he removed to Brunswick, Me., where he was settled in 1886.

Rev. S. Y. LUM was pastor here from the latter part of 1877 to April, 1879, salary \$900.

Rev. WILLIAM MILLER, from April, 1879, to December 31, 1881.

Rev. C. S. AYER, from July, 1884, to July, 1885.

Rev. EGBERT N. MONROE, from July 1, 1885, to December, 1887.

Rev. AARON C. ADAMS, 1888 to November 2, 1893.

Rev. CLAY D. CHUNN, March 12, 1894, December 31, 1896.

Rev. HENRY H. DAVIES, June 1, 1897, October 31, 1898.

Rev. LORING B. CHASE, May 1, 1899, October 27, 1901.

Rev. WILSON R. STEWART, February 2, 1902, present incumbent.

In 1843, the church membership ran as high as 224; in 1870, it fell to 114, when, by reason of the influx of population consequent on the opening of the railroad communication, the number began to increase.

The Congregational Sunday School of Rocky Hill was organized in September, 1818, through the influence of Mrs. Tracy, wife of Hon. Uriah Tracy, Jared Goodrich being superintendent, and under a set of rules formulated by the Rev. Calvin Chapin, pastor. The school was sustained until October, 1821, when it was discontinued until about 1830, at which time Dea. Jared Williams was its superintendent. In 1839, we find the constitution of the *Rocky Hill Sabbath School Society*, as it is then called, so altered and amended as to be totally unlike that of 1818. The previous stringent regulations concerning the attend-

ance of the children on divine service, the use of blue and red cards of merit and demerit, the "one cent books" used as prizes, and the strong hints at expulsion which characterized the earlier document had all disappeared, and in place thereof was an "Article 14" providing for a meeting of teachers "at least once in 2 weeks" to select the lessons for the two Sabbaths next following. In 1841, when the school had 23 teachers and 144 scholars, 80 professed faith in Christ and joined the Church. In 1858, there were 155 persons in the school, and 10 scholars became Church members; there was also a circulation of 100 copies (each) of the *American Messenger* and the *Child's Paper*, 20 of the *Journal of Missions* and 7 of the *Sailor's Magazine*. The school from 1849-'55, increased greatly in numbers, influence and the amount of its contributions to religious and charitable objects. It was, until 1876 (50 years from its birth) in all respects independent of the Church, except for moral support, but in that year was formally adopted by the Church. Its superintendents have been: Jared Goodrich, Dea. Israel Williams, Dea. Jared Dimock, Dea. Thos D. Williams, John Bulkeley, Edward F. Robbins, Calvin J. Burnell, Rev. S. Y. Lunn, Albert C. Griswold, Edward N. Warner, Daniel W. Dickinson.

Among its active friends and helpers, also, should be enumerated the wives of the ministers of the Church, and the names of Mrs. Maynard, Mrs., Woodruff, Mrs. Tryon, Mrs. Geo. M. Smith, Mrs. Means, Mrs. Lord and Mrs. Horace Williams.

Other Ministers Resident in Rocky Hill.—In the autumn of 1871, Rev. ASA D. SMITH came to Rocky Hill, and bought the house next west of Capt. New. Robbins' corner, built by E. G. Ward. Mr. S. had been a missionary among the Indians in Oregon, in 1838, making the journey there on horseback, with his wife—a four months' trip. After a few years, he was transferred to the Sandwich Islands, where he labored as missionary until 1845, when he returned to U. S., *via* Canton and the Cape of Good Hope. Before coming to Rocky Hill, he had preached at two or three places, where he also performed some faithful service. In 1883, with his wife, he removed on a missionary enterprise to Sherwood, Franklin County, Tenn., where he died, 10 February, 1886.

About 1870, Rev. FRED W. CHAPMAN located in Rocky Hill, but, though he occasionally preached on a Sunday, was not connected with any church. He had been in active ministerial service at Wolcott, East Hampton, South Glastonbury, and other places; afterwards had kept the Boys High School at Ellington. He was an enthusiastic genealogist, and had collected and published the histories of the *Chapman*,

(1864), the *Pratt* (1864), the *Trowbridge* (1872), the *Buckingham* (1872), the *Bulkley* (1875), and the *Coit*, (1874) families; and during the latter part of his life was engaged upon the following similar works, which were left, at his death, in manuscript form, viz: *Belden*, *Blinn*, *Boardman*, *Buck*, *Butler*, *Deming*, *Francis*, *Goodrich*, *Griswold*, *Halc*, *Latimer*, *Reynolds*, *Riley*, *Warner*, *Waterhouse*, *Williams*, *Wolcott*, *Wright*. These labors, printed and unprinted, fully entitle him to the name of "The Wethersfield Genealogist."

Rocky Hill Men who have entered the Ministry.—ELIZUR GOODRICH, 1774, preached in Durham, Ct.; GERSHOM (gt-gd-son of Rev. Gershom) BULKELEY, grad. Y. C., 1770, preached at Cromwell, then at Middletown Upper Houses from 1778 to 1808; JOSHUA (s. of Capt. Elias) WILLIAMS, in the latter part of the last and early part of the present century, settled at Harwinton; COMFORT (son of Elial and gd-son of Elias) WILLIAMS, graduate of Y. C., preached in Rochester, N. Y., and died there 1825, æt. 42; JOHN PRICE, a Baptist minister, studied at Suffield, perhaps elsewhere, d. at Buckland, Mass., where he had been ord. and settled; he was son of John and Harriet (*Wetherell*) Price of Rocky Hill; CORNELIUS SHIPMAN, grad. Y. C., rem. to Indiana when a boy; was a missionary to S. I.; ALFRED B. GOODRICH, b. abt. 1826, (s. Levi G., 2d), learned the printers' trade with his bro-in-law (Walter S. Williams (s. of Aekley Williams) of Rocky Hill, and was for many years a successful book printer in Hartford), ent. Trinity College about 1845; ord. to Epis. ministry; rector of Church in Utica, N. Y.

*Deacons of the Stepney Church.*¹—The published Manual of the Third Church of Wethersfield, which was organized 7th June, 1727, gives as the first certainly *known* of its deacons, the name of THOMAS CURTIS, chosen to that office in 1781. During the preceding 54 years which had elapsed since the church's organization, there had been deacons of course; and Rev. Dr. Chapin mentions, *as of tradition*, Deacons DAVID GOODRICH, BENJAMIN WRIGHT and NATHANIEL ROBBINS. This evident lack of knowledge regarding the Stepney diaconate is due, *first* to the fact that for nearly an hundred years (1765) there seems to have been no existing church records; and for several years after that date the records were but fragmentary in character; *second*, that, hitherto, no determined attempt has ever been made, *outside* of the church records, to hunt up information upon the subject. The *Society* records, beginning in 1726 make mention of Deacon BENJAMIN WRIGHT in 1729; and, in 1730, of Dea. JONATHAN CURTIS, who was the first (as of

¹ Condensed from (29 pp.) a *Historical Address* delivered at Rocky Hill Church, 28 October, 1888, by Dr. Rufus W. Griswold.

record) elected Clerk of the Society, in 1726. The last mention of his name is in 1732. For many years, and down to January, 1753, Dea. Benjamin Wright, was for the greater part of the time Moderator of Stepney Society Meetings. In 1733 and '34, DAVID GOODRICH is spoken of as deacon. The legitimate conclusion from these data is that Jonathan Curtis and Benjamin Wright were elected deacons at the organization of the church in 1727; and that Mr. Curtis dying in 1732 or '33, Mr. Goodrich was chosen deacon in his place that year, or the next. Benjamin Wright died in 1753, and was succeeded as deacon by EBENEZER WRIGHT.

The first record of death among the early deacons, is that of Ebenezer Wright, September 20, 1766, of consumption; the next is that of Nathaniel Robbins, 6 October, 1783, of smallpox, ae. 76; the next is of David Goodrich, 14 July, 1785, in his 91st year; the next that of Thomas Curtis, November 6, 1789, in his 80th year. This brings us to the printed record in the Manual, and we can now proceed to complete the list.

JONATHAN CURTIS, } elected at the organization of the Church in
BENJAMIN WRIGHT, } 1727; *which* had precedence in election does not
appear.

DAVID GOODRICH, elected 1733, to succeed Dea. Curtis, who had died the previous year.

EBENEZER WRIGHT, elected 1753 or '54, to succeed Dea. Benjamin Wright, deceased 1753; Dea. Ebenezer Wright died in 1766, and was succeeded by

NATHANIEL ROBBINS, who, together with his senior deacon David Goodrich, *resigned* in 1781, Robbins died in 1783; Goodrich in 1785.

ELIAS WILLIAMS, } Chosen deacons 1 May, 1782; but Williams de-
THOMAS CURTIS, } clined to serve and

JOSIAH HUNTINGTON was elected in his place, 29 Aug., 1782. Dea. Thomas Curtis died in 1789, and

EBENEZER GOODRICH was elected in his place, 5 July, 1789. In 1794, Dea. Huntington removed to Farmington, Ct., and

BENJAMIN WRIGHT (2d) was elected deacon, 8 June, 1794; that year or the next, he removed to Berlin, Ct., and the Church chose

ELIAS DICKINSON as his successor, April 19, 1795. Dea. Ebenezer Goodrich resigned in 1805, and

ASAHEL MERRIAM was elected his successor, Dec. 8, 1805. Dea. Goodrich died 19 Sept., 1813, ae. 80. Mr. Merriam died June 18, 1808, of consumption, ae. 37, and was succeeded by

SETH HART, elected 24 July, of that year. Dea. Elias Dickinson resigned in 1811 (dying, Nov. 22, 1822, ae. 80) and

SIMON BUTLER, succeeded him by election, 11 May, 1811. Seth Hart died 12 Dec., 1813, ae. 53, and

HEZEKIAH WHITMORE succeeded to him, 17 Apl., 1814. In 1829, both Dea. Butler and Dea. Whitmore resigned (Butler died 29 Dec., 1831, ae. 77; Whitmore died 27 Feb., 1842, ae. 84); and to them succeeded

ISRAEL WILLIAMS, } chosen 31 May, 1829. Israel Williams removed
JEHIEL ROBBINS, } to Terre Haute, Ind. (where he subsequently
died, in 1838), and was succeeded by

JARED G. DIMOCK, elected 14th Oct., 1838. In 1843, Dea. Jehiel Robbins removed to Plainville, Ct. (where he died 1851, ae. 68), and was succeeded by

JOEL GOODRICH, elected 13 Sept., 1843; died 26 Dec., 1851, ae. 68, and

THOMAS D. WILLIAMS was elected in his place, 25 Jan., 1852; Dea. Williams died 4 Dec., 1881, ae. 62, and in 1882,

WILLIAM G. ROBBINS was elected to fill the vacancy.

EDWARD N. WARNER, his associate, was elected; resigned 1897.

HORACE R. MERRIAM, elected 1897.

Not much has come down to us, concerning the *personality* of these old deacons, except the bald data thus given. JONATHAN CURTIS, BENJAMIN WRIGHT and DAVID GOODRICH were prominent citizens at this (the Rocky Hill) end of Wethersfield, when Stepney parish was set off from the town in 1722; they were also foremost in the organization of the parish in 1726, and the establishing of the Church in 1727. CURTIS, probably, resided below Drum Hill, on what is still known as "Curtis Corner," at the beginning of the 20-rod highway reservation, which extended west across "Beset (Amobeset) Plain" and past the turnpike to Cabull and Three-Mile Hill and on to Masabeset River, at the southwest corner of the present town. That he was a well educated man for his day, is evidenced by the chirography of the old record begun and kept by him for many years. Both he and Dea. Wright were of the oldest families of the town. Dea. DAVID GOODRICH was probably a son of that Capt. Ephraim Goodrich, who is set down upon the old map of 1721 (see Map at p. 373), as residing on the plain now known as Dividend, a little way north of the southeast corner of the town, and facing the river. He seems to have held the deaconship for 48 years.

Dea. NATHANIEL ROBBINS was the eldest son of Joshua Robbins, Jr., and was born September, 1708; he was the grandson of John

Robbins, "Gentleman," so named on the Wethersfield Record in 1640. Dea. Nathaniel married (1736) his cousin Mary, daughter of Richard, and sister of Esquire John Robbins, of Rocky Hill; was a farmer.

Elias Williams, though, by reason of his declination of the honor conferred upon him by the Church, not reckoned in the line of deacons, was a very large landholder in the Stepney district, and a man of importance in the community.

Dea. THOMAS CURTIS, whom we suppose to have been the T. C., who, in 1741, married Dorothy, daughter of Edward Bulkeley, was probably a descendant of either John. or Thomas Curtis, original Wethersfield settlers. He probably resided on the corner referred to in connection with Dea. Jonathan Curtis.

Dea. JOSIAH HUNTINGTON was not of any old Wethersfield family (the name is rather of Norwich origin), but probably "married in" to the town. He lived somewhere by "the Landing," perhaps in the Jacob Williams house.

Dea. BENJAMIN WRIGHT, second of the name in the Stepney diaconate, probably resided under the hill, at what is now the Andrew Miller place; removed to Berlin a few months after being chosen deacon.

Dea. EBENEZER GOODRICH resided on the corner where Dea. Jared G. Dimock now lives, though in an older house; he was a farmer, tanner and shoemaker.

Dea. ELIAS DICKINSON lived where Mrs. Abijah and Edward W. Tryon now reside. His son Harvey lived where Mrs. Charles Beaumont now lives—the east part of that house being a part of the old Dickinson house. Elias was grandfather of Caroline and James Dickinson, not many years deceased; he was a carpenter, his shop in the road close by his house, on Parsonage Street.

Dea. ASAHEL MERRIAM was a son of Rev. Burrage Merriam, second pastor of Stepney. He resided where Mr. Jos. Warner now does—on the site of the stockaded house of 1704, called "Fort Deming."

Dea. SETH HART was a tailor; probably of Farmington origin; his house and shop (where he also kept drugs, etc.), both now gone, stood opposite the smithy on Ferry Street.

Dea. SIMEON BUTLER, descendant of the early Joseph, was a miller at the south end of town; resided on the corner where his ancestor Joseph probably lived in an older house and where his (Simeon's) son Capt. William lived. Dea. Simeon probably built the present house—later rebuilt by Robert Sugden, Jr., a few years ago.

Dea. HEZEKIAH WHITMORE, probably a descendant of Thomas, the Settler, 1639, was a cooper; resided on Hill Street, next east of Chas.

Williams' present residence. He had a shop there, and an earlier one north of the Oliver Pomeroy store at "the Landing." It is of tradition that he came here from "down the river."

Dea. ISRAEL WILLIAMS (son of William and grandson of Elias), married Mary, daughter of John Rose; resided some time with his father, where R. C. Griswold now lives, and also in the Bulkeley-Rose place; he was for some years a merchant in Wethersfield village.

Dea. JEHIEL ROBBINS, son of Zebulon (probably the Jr.) Robbins, was father of Mrs. Elizabeth Bliss, a present resident of Rocky Hill. He lived in the brick house which stood where Thomas Warner's heirs now live, at the top of the long hill at the north end.

Dea. JARED G. DIMOCK, son of Samuel and gd-son of Joseph, ship-carpenter, resided on the Ebenezer Goodrich corner. He entered the Stepney Church choir at the age of eleven; from 1834 to 1880, Dea. Dimock led the singing at church prayer meetings, and other religious gatherings. Taken in connection with his many years of diaconal service, this is a rare and honorable record of Christian service and activity.—See *Dimock*, Vol. II.

Dea. JOEL GOODRICH resided in the West District, on the triangle of land occupied by the present West Methodist Meeting House. He married ALBIE BUNCE.

Dea. THOMAS DANFORTH WILLIAMS (son of Merriam, gd-son of Elial and gt-gd-son of Elias), had his boyhood's home where the Misses Williams now live. After his marriage he lived in the West District, on the main road "as you go out West." His wife was Mary Jane, daughter (by his second wife) of Capt. Jason Boardman.

Dea. WILLIAM G. ROBBINS, son of Roswell R. and gd-son of George Robbins, gd-son, on his mother's side, of William Robbins, 2d; and comes of the same family as Dea. Nathaniel Robbins.

Dea. EDWARD A. WARNER, of an old Wethersfield family, is son of Walter Warner; his wife is Fanny G. Welles, of South Wethersfield.

Clerks of Stepney Society.—Jonathan Curtis, elected 1726, died 1732; Edward Bulkeley; Joseph Williams, 1733-1751; Ebenezer Wright, 1751-1757; Thomas Curtis, 1757-1782; Joseph Bulkeley, 1782 Dec., 1818; William Robbins, 1818, served eleven years after 1822, he signed as William Robbins, 2nd; Walter W. Bulkeley, served 5 years; H. P. Hall, served three years; Henry Whitmore, served thirteen years; Edward F. Robbins, served seventeen years; Samuel Dimock, served five years; C. J. Burnell, served two years; Smith (?); Samuel Dimock, served three years; David C. Griswold, served two years; William G. Robbins, from 1880.

Treasurers of Stepney Society.—Elias Williams, 1767, re-elected down to 1796; James Stanley, 1796-1804; Frederick Robbins, 1804-1818; Levi Robbins, 1818-1842; Merriam Williams, 1842-1853; Samuel Dimock, 1853-1854; Henry Whitmore, 1854, and by re-election till 1867; Jared G. Dimock, 1867-1876; William G. Robbins, 1876-1878; Charles C. Butler, one year; Henry R. Taylor, two years; Rufus W. Griswold, Dec., 1879. The first Treasurer's Record of which there is knowledge began in 1804. Up to 1825, the treasurer was paid a small fee; since that date it seems to have been considered that the *privilege* of handling the Society's funds is an adequate compensation for the trouble!

The Care-takers, or Sextons of the Old Church have been: John Church; a second John Church (probably son of the former); Elisha Church; a third John Church, down to the erection of the new house of worship—truly an appropriate *Church-ly* family succession!

The first substitution, in the Society records, of Dollars and Cents for Pounds, Shillings and Pence was in 1799, since when all accounts have been in decimal currency.

Schools.—[Judge Adams, in Chapter IX, has already given a brief summary of Rocky Hill's school history. In addition to what he there says concerning the schoolhouse of 1712, Dr. Griswold remarks—*H. R. S.*] "That it should have been built at this place for the accommodation of the south end of the parish, seems strange, for it is hardly probable that there were any houses at this time, from between near Dix's corners and Goffe's brook. I think there was one house at the corner, south side and one where the Adams house is. But, it is certain that the centre of population and of whatsoever else there existed must have been as far south as where the first meeting house was built, and there were some houses in the south part of what is now Rocky Hill. From Dix's corner to the site of this schoolhouse is about one mile and a quarter; and from thence to the south line of the town three miles; so that a building put up here was not erected in conformity to the vote above quoted. Without doubt, there were, at this time, houses below Drum Hill, and at Dividend, when the Bulkeley corn-mill had been many years in operation. But an old map (maker unknown) of Rocky Hill Street and Village in 1721,¹ locates a school-

¹This old map which will be found as an illustration at page 373, of Chapter IX, does not extend as far north as Goff's brook. It is evidently intended to show Cole's Hill or about halfway on the N. and S. line through the town, on the main road. On it are located the places of Jonathan Deming (cor. Parsonage St.); Sam. Williams (W. of the Burying ground); Mrs. Bulkeley's lot (about the corn-mill); and "Capt. Goodrich's living" (extending from the River,

house at the point named, and marks no other. The evidence, therefore, is that the first public school building was at this point.

But that it was not in a satisfactory place, is evident from the fact that soon after there was a movement for another building. It is likely there was trouble over the location; for in 1718, the General Court, having been petitioned in the matter, a committee of that body recommended two schoolhouses, one on the hill by Grimes', the other on the hill by Widow Sam Cole's. Cole's hill was the point where the burying ground was afterwards located; a schoolhouse was built there, probably at the head of the road that runs west from the cemetery. Where was the "hill by Grimes" is not exactly certain; but likely the top of Long hill was meant: and as there was a building already near there, it is probable that that was continued in use for one of the houses. Joseph Grimes, probably the first Grimes in Rocky Hill, had come here from Lexington, Mass.

There is no further record, to my knowledge, about the schools here, till after the formation of the Stepney parish. Dec. 5, 1726, at a meeting

above Dividend lot, West). Our impression is that this map was used before the Assembly, in the matter of some trouble being had concerning the location of a School-house.

The reason why a school had been located on Cole's Hill (which was below the half-way mark) was probably the better to accommodate the children from the New Farms neighborhood. At this time the present Elm St. had not been opened. A road ran W. "by Deming's" and another by "Samuel Williams". Deming lived on the N. corner of Parsonage St. and Williams on the South corner; W. of where the Burying ground was afterward located. Both of these roads opened out into the Common, on land still belonging to the Town. This Common, or undivided land, came up from the West to certainly as far East as Russell St.; and this map shows it as all open West to the Beckley road that came from the brook running by the Adams Mill and ran Southwest. The W. end of the road by Sam. Williams was continued on W. by a cow-path through the woods that ran along on the high ground to the S. of the Present road, leading to West Rocky Hill, and which came out by the Stone-pit, along where now runs the lane leading to the old Boardman-Holmes house. I suppose the "Western Farmers," as they were called were located in the neighborhood of the present New Farms Street. It would, therefore better accommodate the children there to have a Schoolhouse on Cole's Hill than to have it further north, as their traveled path to the Centre came out on the main road by Sam. Williams' house. This road was part of the lane that comes to the Boardman house from the West; further east, the line can still be traced on N. side of the Hill East of the Boardman house; then it went on the S. side of the knoll S.W. of present residence of Dea. Dimock. Why this road W. of its present end, just beyond the Alpheus Goodrich (Wm. Grimes') house was abandoned, does not appear. It was probably given up when the road across the swale and to the N. was opened. I judge that it may not have ever been fenced in from the adjoining lots, and, perhaps, never legally laid out as a public road. It was not in a straight line after getting E. of the Boardman house; but deviated according to the lay of the ground for advantageous travel.

of the voters of the new society, Richard Robbins, Abraham Moris, and Sam'l Belding, Jr., were chosen School Committee. This was the first School Committee of the parish proper,—previous to this time all matters had been managed by the school society. At this time there must have been some 80 or more children of school age in the parish: An old record gives 77 in 1718, presumably of school age. Feb'y 5, 1728, in Society meeting,—“it was agreed, by vote that the school house now standing on Cole's hill shall be moved and set in the most convenient place between Samuel Williams southeast corner of his pasture and y^e south end of the meeting house.” The language would indicate that the school house was to be very near the meeting house; and as the meeting house was nearly against where the barn of Wait Warner's now is, we may suppose the design was to have the school house just south of that point. The old school house was not moved immediately, if at all. Feb'y 20, of the same year,—“it was agreed by vote that they would go and build a school house—24 feet long and 16 feet in width.” “to be set up at the northeast corner of William Nott's lot, which lot abuts on the highway from Wethersfield to Middletown”. The exact location of this cannot be determined: it is not important, as no action was taken under this vote at that time. Three years later, 1731, it appears that the General Assembly had “appointed that there should be two school houses in the Society for y^e keeping of a school among us;” but the parish voted to have “but one school house erected to instruct their children in;” and it was again voted to move the school house standing by Joseph Belding's (the same as on Cole's Hill) to a convenient point between the meeting house and the southeast corner of Samuel Williams' pasture; and the old committee was again instructed to go on with the new house in contemplation; and the General Assembly was to be petitioned for a confirmation of the doings of the parish; it was further voted that school be kept in the meeting house till the school house could be made suitable to keep school in. Dec. 4, 1732, the committee was further instructed to go on with the school house voted in Feb'y of 1728. On the 3d of Dec., 1733, a meeting of the inhabitants of the parish was adjourned from the meeting house to the school house,—the reason for this being that there was no provision in the church building for a fire, while the school building had fire-place and chimney. It would appear from this adjournment that either the building on Cole's hill had been moved up too near the meeting house, or that a new building had been put up,—It is uncertain which; for some things ordered failed of accomplishment. Twelve years after this—1745—it was voted to shingle the

school house anew, with 18 inch shingles. As the shingles at that day were rived out by hand, and often lasted for two or three generations, it hardly seems that a building put up new in or after 1733, should have needed a new covering in 1745. What is likely is that the Cole's hill house had been moved up by the meeting house and was still in use, and that no new one had been erected.

In Dec. 1735, it was agreed by Society vote "that our western farmers shall have y^e school kept some part of y^e time out with them." This appears to have been the beginning of teaching regularly in what is now the west district. In March, of 1744, the inhabitants of the western part of the town complaining of the lack of school accommodation, it was voted that the school house be moved to the west end of the land of Samuel Goffe, or a new one built. The west end of the land of Sam'l Goffe was somewhere out by or beyond the turn of the road by Deacon Jared Dimock's residence. It is not likely that this vote was carried into effect. It was also at the same time voted that a school be kept three winter months for the western people.

In the fall of 1751, it was ordered that there should be three schools kept in the society in the then coming winter,—three months each in the north, south and west, and at the school house in Sept., Oct. and Nov.: The three fall months were designated for the whole town; in the winter months, there were three schools, some probably kept at private houses. It would seem from this order that there was then but one recognized school building, though the building opposite the Boardman place may have been in use some of the time. The next winter the town was divided into three parts for school purposes,—the west part beginning at Churchill's lane—supposed to be the present east line of the west district; the other two parts dividing at the school house.

In Dec., 1754, it was voted to sell the school house to the highest bidder. At this point, the matter of school buildings for the different parts of the society began to be seriously considered. In 1756 the parish was formally divided into three parts, the west part being what is now the portion of the west district then in the parish, and the line between the north and south being likely the road from the landing west and its continuation to the west district line. It was at this time voted to build a house for the south part north of Hog brook, at the foot of the hill below the burying ground, and for the north part near the south side of Jonathan Boardman's lot, east of the highway; the site of the 1712 building—and the inhabitants of the west district were released from any expense of these two houses. The house for the south district stood

nearly opposite the present residence of Alfred Griswold (1874), immediately at the foot of Cole's hill, west of the roadway, and in the line of the turnpike afterwards laid out. The north house was right by the large maple tree opposite the old house of the late Jason Boardman, and before him of his father, Capt. Jason, and probably also of his grandfather John, and in the road. The Jonathan Boardman hereinbefore spoken of was a town pedagogue: he was at one time (in 1728), granted permission by the authorities to teach a school. My impression is that Boardman used the 1712 structure for a school on his own account, and the same building was used for like purposes, when the public school rotated to that end of the parish.

School was now kept 15 weeks in the north and south districts, and six weeks in the west. In 1757, the sum of 48 pounds and 14 shillings was voted to pay for building the two new school houses.

The school term in the west district, so far as the parish paid for its support, was limited to 6 weeks in the year, till 1773, when it was voted that thereafter the west part "should have liberty to keep a school among themselves two months and a half a year, provided they build a house at their own cost". The same year it was voted to build two new school houses, one at the north part of the town and one at the south,—the north house to be in the highway near the north side of Rev. Mr. Merriam's home lot, and the south on Cole's hill, between the mouth of the lane leading from the water-side and the dwelling house of Mr. Ephraim Williams. The first of these points was where the then existing building was standing, and the other where the house that there was talk of moving in 1728 had stood; and it was further voted, that "we will take the frame that is already set up for a school house, now standing near the meeting house, for one of the aforesaid new school houses, provided y^e owners will let us have it for the just value." Evidently there was agitation for another division at this period, and that individuals, in their private capacity, had begun the erection of a third house. The two new ones voted were not built at this time; for in Dec., 1774, the committee was ordered to "do something towards mending the school houses so as to make them comfortable to keep school in this winter season," and in 1780 a committee was appointed to "view the south school house and see if it was worth repairing."

In 1779 it was voted that exclusive of the west district, schools should be kept in three parts,—north, south and middle, three months each, and each to have an equal number of scholars assigned to it by the committee. Thereafter four schools were kept, and appropriations made to each. The "frame" alluded to in 1773 had been completed into a

house, and was used for the centre school. It stood on the triangular bit of land between the roads near the residence of the late Dr. Rufus W. Griswold.

In 1781, the parish was formally divided into four districts, upon the lines as they now exist, except that the north district extended up to the north line of Stepney parish, and the north line of the west district was on the old parish line at that end of the parish. That part of the north district now in the town of Wethersfield, except the first house north of the bridge, was at a later day set off to Harris Hill district of Wethersfield, and about 1800 the district line was brought to the town line and the north line of the west district was extended in 1850 north to coincide with the line between the towns. At this period (1781), the different districts entered upon the management of their own houses.¹ The middle had its house, as herein indicated; and very soon after this time both north and south districts put up new houses,—the former on the site of the old one, of brick, and the latter of wood at the head of the road running west nearly opposite the present brick building in that district, the road being known as Skeeter Lane. The west district, built of wood also, in the road, a little way south of this present brick house. The house of the middle district, also of wood, was used for school, till about 1800, when it was sold to Alexander Grimes and he moved it down by his house, just west of the freight depot, and converted it into a dwelling,—and moved into it. His daughter, Aunt Sophronia, continued to live there after his death for 60 years or more. The railroad as laid out in 1871, struck one corner of it, and it was again moved, and now stands just below the burying ground, north of Hog brook, on the east side of the road to Dividend. This old school house had lapsed to Margaret Jagger, *nee* Grimes, before the railroad was built, and is used for storing and packing polishing-sand. Alexander Grimes lived previously, in the house just south, now moved a little west of Ferry St., The school house of the north district was in use till 1845, when it was torn down, and (being of brick) the materials were turned into the present brick building that stands a little

¹ In 1796, by an act of the Assembly, the business of managing schools, as also the care of burying grounds, were lodged in School Societies. Therefore, both these matters had rested with the Parish. Rocky Hill School Society took in the first house north of Goff's brook. The Societies continued in existence up to 1856, when they were abolished by act of the legislature. I have made much endeavor to find the records of the school society, but without success; they are past recovery, and with them much of interest is lost. Mr. Merriam Williams and Mr. Levi Robbins, both several years deceased, were long treasurer and clerk respectively, and nearly if not quite up to the date of the discontinuance of the societies.

way south but on the opposite side of the road. The south district house was used for school till 1849, when the present brick one was built, nearly opposite at Peppercorn; it was then moved to the north side of Hog brook, and is now occupied as a dwelling. (1874) Mrs. Charlotte Deming lived in it till her death. The west district house was used till 1850, was then sold to Nehemiah Stevens and moved off, down by his house, and the present brick one erected a little to the north.

The present two story brick house in the centre district was built in 1803; was built in part by a tax on the property of the district, as I have understood, and partly by a private subscription, or by the sale of shares in it. The building was here in 1805,—it being spoken of in a vote of the Stepney records of that date, in relation to the site of the new church building then about to be erected. Mr. Henry Whitmore, deceased, born in 1786, went to school in the gambrel-roofed house on the little park by my residence, till he was a well grown boy. The contractor for the building, Mr. Abraham Jagger, took for a part of his pay the subscriptions, or the shares of stock, made by individuals for its erection: many of these were never paid up, and the job ruined him financially.

Later.—In July, 1887, I learn from Mr. Charles Williams that in an old account book of his father's, in his possession, that Jan. 6, 1802, Eliphalet Foster is charged to One share in the Academy £1.10; and in 1803 Abraham Jagger is charged for drawing 1000 brick from the Nooks, for the Academy. This seems to settle the date of the erection of this building. It is likely that Jagger took so many of the shares in the building, that not being able to realize on them, he was bankrupted.

The second story of this building was mostly in one room, and was arched overhead. It was used for a great many years for an academy school, and was known as Academy Hall. There were large fire-places in both stories, the chimney being in the southwest end. This academy school had a high reputation: some of what were called the higher branches of school education were taught, the higher mathematics, including Navigation. It was supported in good repute till the burning out of the building, on the night of the 31st of Dec., 1839 or the early morning of Jan.; 1, 1840. The walls were left standing; the inside was rebuilt the next season, and the whole covered in, but the second story was not done off. The lower story was in two rooms; later the partition wall was cut through and sliding doors put between. In 1850 the district leased the upper story, perpetually, to the Rocky Hill Eccl. Society, conditioned that the Society "do off the upper rooms," and thereafter take care of and keep "in good repair all above the floor of said

room, including said floor and the timbers and frame thereof". About the time this lease was made there was organized in the town a Society of Sons of Temperance, who arranged with the Eccl. Society to join in defraying the expenses of finishing up the room, conditioned that it could have the use of it for their meetings. The temperance organization went to pieces in about three years, and its interest in the room lapsed to the Eccl. Society, which has since maintained and controlled it. After this rebuilding of the upper room, it came to be more generally called the Conference room, and was the usual place of assembly for the Congregational church for prayer meetings and the like, up to 1881, when a room for such purposes was fitted up in the meeting house.

This upper room,—both before and since the burning— has been used for divers purposes,—besides for the prayer meetings of the church; for select private schools at many times; for a town high school at different periods; for town meetings, concerts, lectures, shows, debating clubs, library and lyceum associations, festivals, fairs, suppers, singing schools, agricultural club meetings, political caucuses, Episcopal church services (1873), Catholic church meetings (1880), Justice trials, and for a Good Templars Lodge service (1870), etc., etc. For the first quarter of the century many young men of the town learned the science of Navigation in this Academy Hall, and fitted themselves to become captains of the coasters and sea-going vessels out of Connecticut river. Since 1840, school matters in this hall have not been up to the plane of what had obtained in the four decades previous.

In the fall of 1885 the Eccl. Society sub-leased the conference room to the Rocky Hill Library Association, for 10 years, at the rent of \$25 per year, reserving the right for the free use of the room for its own purposes whenever it might desire,—the association assuming the obligations to keep the room and roof in proper repair during the life of the lease. During the period of control by the Eccl. Society, the use of the room was given for school purposes, library associations, temperance societies, agricultural club, singing schools, public lectures, and for various general purposes, without cost, and often at its own expense for lights and fuel, with a generosity not always appreciated.

I have been told that there were two fireplaces in the lower story of this building originally,—one at each end, as there were two rooms. If this was so, then the north chimney must have been taken out at the time of re-building.

There is no known record of the sale of the school house lot, or its

boundaries. Up to 1884, there had been a post and rail fence around an ox-bow shaped piece of land,—the rear representing the hollow of the bow. In the rebuilding of the fence from time to time, the original lot had been encroached upon, but to what extent did not appear.

The following, from the records, is as to original division into districts:—At a meeting of the inhabitants of the parish held in on y^e 3d day of April 1781, "Y^e committe that was appointed to Divide y^e Society into School Destricts made their Report, and it was accepted by s^d Society, and voted and is as follows (viz') in the first place to Draw a Line of Division between y^e South and Middle Destricts, beginning at y^e Great River, at y^e place where Hogbrook so called enties it self into said River, and, Running a Northwesterly Course to the Southwest corner of John Benton's Hom[e] lot, then turning and running a more Westerly Course to the South East corner of Elijah Goodrich's Hamlot, then runing paralel with y^e South Side of s^d Lot till it comes to a Certain Lot of Land belonging to Deacon David Goodrich, then to run north in y^e line between said Lot and y^e west side of a Lot of Land belonging to Jacob Reiley to a highway, and then as the s^d highway runs to y^e Western Destrict; all south of s^d line to belong to y^e South Destrict, excepting Capt. Elias Williams, who is to Join or be set to y^e Middle School, and all such as shall Live in the House in which he now Dwells, —y^e middle Destrict having a Larger number of children then y^e other Destricts, and Less Lists, which Renders it necessary, to bring y^e Several Districts on nearly an Equal footing. Then 2^d 1st, to Draw a Line of Division between the north and middle Destricts beginning at y^e North-west corner of Presentt Bulkley's Hamlot, and running a paralel Line with y^e North side of Said lot to the Great River, and then running from the forementioned corner a Westerly Course to y^e South east Corner of Capt Elias Williams South Common Lot, so called, then perralel with y^e South Line of s^d Lot till it comes to the western Destrict."

These lines remain to the present time, though there have been some changes of fences. The lines have been re-surveyed at later dates.

"Capt. John Robbins, Livit Charles Butler, Mr. Jacob Reiley and Mr. Giles Deming were chosen a Committe in behalf of the Society to apply themselves to y^e Hon^{ble} Assembly to get these division lines established and confirmed."

From the wording of this note of division between the north and middle district, which speaks of the line going to the Great River, it is to be seen that before this date some part of the meadow had become set to the parish of Stepney—I suppose the line of meadow division to have been at the road east from the Beaver meadow bridge, as Stepney parish

had petitioned for, first in 1746 and again in 1754, and obtained in 1759.

School Money—"The Colony's Bounty."—In 1741, it is on record, that "Dea. Benjamin Wright, and Mr. Josiah Churchill, and Lieut. John Warner were chosen a Committee to receive the Colony's Bounty to the School of said Parish, and to use and dispose of the same according to the Act and Direction of the General Assembly, in this case made."

This "bounty," so-called "came from the sale of lands in Litchfield County, given to the older Connecticut towns, by Act of Legislature, for school purposes. Its amount is not specified on records.

In the parish records of 1746, Thomas Curtis and John Robbins, 2nd, were appointed a Committee to care for this fund—then called "Loan Money": and in 1753 Mr. Robbins was paid £2 for his care of it. After that date, no further record appears in relation to it. Mr. Levi Robbins, Treasurer of Stepney Society for several years since 1818, and also many years Clerk of the Rocky Hill School Society, down to the abolition of School Societies in 1856, was uninformed as to the source of this fund (which in 1880, amounted to \$208.77); and, as there is no record of any *other* source than that already mentioned, it seems a legitimate conclusion that the money owed to the town by the heirs of Samuel Goodrich at the present time, is the "Colony's Bounty" of 1741.

This view appears to be corroborated, by a record of the Ecclesiastical Society of Newington, Nov., 1830, in which is notice of the appointment of a Committee by that Society to confer with a Committee of the School Society and to make report about the "division of public money, belonging to the two Societies", about which there had been some dispute. The *School* societies at that time managed all school matters. One of the items in dispute was "the *loan money*, derived from the sale "of lands in certain townships in the western part of the State, done "by authority of the Legislature¹ and appropriated exclusively for the "benefit of schools"—amounting in this Newington case, to \$279.23. I suppose this "loan money" to be from the same source as *our* loan money: so that its origin appears.

In the case above cited, the Ecclesiastical Society reported that the School Society had a legal claim to this "loan money." With us (Stepney) the question of legal claim to the care and use of this loan money was, doubtless, settled when the superintendence of school

¹ It was not from the authority of the *Legislature* that the parishes had this money; but from the Colonial Assembly of 1740 or '41 likely—the Colonial Assembly being the predecessor of the Legislature of later days.

matters passed from the care of the *Parishes* to that of the *School societies*, by Act of the General Assembly of 1796; and the subsequent transfer (when School Societies were abolished in 1856), of the School Society's functions and responsibilities to the Town.

We may add, for the purpose of obtaining a relative view of the different townships, which formerly composed the original Township of Wethersfield, with each other, as regards *education*—that according to official statistics for 1882, *Wethersfield* had \$3371 in taxable property for each person of school age; *Newington*, \$2241; *Rocky Hill*, \$1385; *Glastonbury*, \$1372. The percentage appropriated that year for school purposes, was, for *Glastonbury*, \$3.19; *Rocky Hill*, \$1.85; *Newington*, \$1.76; *Wethersfield*, \$1.35. But the amounts raised from all sources, *per capita*, was— in *Wethersfield*, \$10.07; *Glastonbury*, \$7.08; *Newington*, \$6.49; *Rocky Hill*, \$5.27. The percentage of school attendance was *Wethersfield*, 91.8; *Newington*, 89.4; *Glastonbury*, 83.9; *Rocky Hill*, 83.3.

BURYING GROUNDS.—January 19, 1730, at a meeting of the inhabitants of Stepney parish, it was "Voted, and agreed, that we would have a burying yard to bury our dead in, on that hill known by y^e name of Cole's Hill, a little southward of that place where Andrew Attwood formerly erected a cooper's shop"; and Capt. Ephraim Goodrich, Sgt. Thomas Deming and Mr. Samuel Williams were appointed a Committee to apply to the Town of Wethersfield "for a confirmation of the aforesaid burying yard, and to desire the Town to send a committee to lay it out to this Society". In accordance with this request, the Town set out to Stepney parish the ground indicated, its original limits being 20 rods north and south on the main road and 12 in width. The cooper shop of Andrew Attwood referred to in the above vote, stood across the road from the corner now occupied by Benjamin Smith, but somewhat further North.

The first interment in this ground was on June 2d of the following year. On a small stone in the northwest corner of the original layout is the inscription, "Here lieth the Body of the Daughter of Benjamin and Mary Deming, born and died June y^e 2, 1731—the first Buried in this Yard".

About 1800, the ground was widened, on the west side about 180 feet, taking in a considerable breadth of the strip reserved for the road to the mill; in 1849, was extended north between the roads; and again, in 1859, still further north to its present limits, on a line with the road that comes up from the East. The first extension was taken up by parties in 20-foot square lots, without much payment. The extension of

1859 was divided into lots of 20 by 10 feet, and sold by the single lot to the highest bidder—all expenses of lay-out and fencing being covered by sales. The right of burial only was sold, the land remaining in the possession of the Town.

The gravestones of the Rev. Daniel Russell, Rev. Burrage Merriam, Rev. John Lewis and Rev. Calvin Chapin, whose pastorates (inclusive of about six years interregnums) covered a period of 124 years, are in the old part of the Burying Ground. The gravestones of the first three pastors were set by order of and at the expense of the Town.

When the Rev. Mr. Rockwood left the parish in 1859, he gave to the Rocky Hill Ecclesiastical Society a burial lot, belonging to him, in the cemetery, for the interment of such ministers of the parish, or of the members of their families as might die here. This lot is in that portion added in 1849. Some years after his removal other parties, totally ignoring the donor's generous intention, took possession of this lot. The Rev. Philo Judson should have been buried therein; but was interred in the northeast corner of the present yard—his grave unmarked.

Previous to the opening of this Burying Yard in 1731, all burials from this community were made in the burial place of the Mother-Town; and for sometime after, even to within present recollection, some have been taken for burial to Wethersfield, to be buried among their relatives and ancestors. It thus happens that a good many Rocky Hill residents (sea captains, and others) who are buried in Wethersfield Cemetery, should be credited to the South end of the old town.

It may be noted here, that Rocky Hill Burying Ground contains very little, indeed, of what may be called "tombstone literature," which interests the visitor to some cemeteries. And this, we consider to be a cause of congratulation. For, no inanimate thing *lies* worse than the churchyard. To be as "deceitful as a tombstone," is to attain to the summit of untruthfulness. The tombstone lies, often, not only in the characters engraven upon it, but in the ostentation of its superior size, and the costliness of its material and the work expended thereon. The misrepresentation of a collection of gravestones is both positive and negative, *positive* when the conspicuous marble is raised by some doting parent over the remains of a son worthless in life and despised by the better part of the community, in which he has worse than wasted his existence; and *negative* when that "Mother in Israel" or that father without reproach, is laid to rest and only the humblest stone is planted; or perchance, the grave is wholly unmarked; and so frequently is this the case that the stranger in any cemetery can hardly obtain a true idea of the relative worth and position in their day and generation

of those who have "passed over to the majority." The Rocky Hill Burial Ground forms no exception to this general statement.

Beckley Quarter Burying Ground.—A few rods within the limits of Berlin, at the west, in the Beckley district, is a burial ground, opened in 1760, in which most of the families of Rocky Hill have always buried their dead. For further information about this ground, see *Wethersfield Inscriptions*, p. 288.

Among the old people buried in Rocky Hill Burying Ground, not otherwise mentioned in our historical notes, were: Wid. Lois Andrus, d. 1825, ae. 96; Mrs. Betsy Bulkely, ae. 94; Prudence Butler, d. 1842, ae. 97; Wid. Sarah Butler, d. May 10, 1795, in 98th yr.; Wid. Anna Butler, d. 1828, ae. 91; Thankful Bulkely, d. 1829, ae. 96; Wid. Mary Butler, d. 1845, ae. 90; Ann Church, d. 1832, ae. 92; Rebeckah Edwards, d. 1842, ae. 90; Wid. Sarah Goodrich, d. 20 May, 1789, ae. 84, left 65 gd-ch. and 69 gt-gd-ch.; Dea. David Goodrich, d. 1785, in 91st yr.; Alex. Grimes, d. 1840, ae. 95; Wid. Abigail Grimes, d. 1792, ae. 90; Mrs. Eliza Morton, d. 1838, ae. 92. There are no ages given in the *Old Church Rec.* of persons dying before 1781; there were, of course, some nonogenarians previous to that time, and except a family record here and there, there were no record of deaths in Stepney parish until 1765.

OTHER RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS IN STEPNEY.

The first appearance of Methodism in this parish, appears to have been about 1830, when meetings were held in the "old sail loft" over an old store formerly standing just north of the large storchouse once Roderick Grimes', at The Landing, but which had been drawn to a site a few feet northerly from that of the present Wethersfield Church. Archibald Robbins, one of the crew of the brig *Commerce*, who were captured by Arabs and sold into captivity, was, after his release, and return to his home, the keeper of this store. This place was used by the little congregation for about eight years; and a Rev. Mr. Buck is credited as being their first preacher. Later, and for about ten years, services were held at the house of a Mrs. Myers, more recently owned by Mr. Sylvester Goodrich. The society then bought the old William Bradford store, at the river, and moved it to where the present church edifice now stands, and occupied it as their first church building for about ten years. It was only about 24x30 feet in size, was usually filled to overflowing, and soon became quite inadequate to the wants of the congregation, some of whom came over from Wethersfield. About 1843, Rev. John Lovejoy was pastor; his successors were the Revs. John

Hunter, Stetson and Dr. Archer, then a practicing physician. The Steward and Trustees were Talcott A. Arnold, Chester B. Goodrich, B. G. Webb, Jeremy Goodrich. Class Leader, T. A. Arnold, under whose leadership Methodism greatly increased.

The next church edifice was erected in 1859; dedication sermon preached by pastor Rev. Mr. Hatfield, whose successors have been Revs. A. B. Pulling, J. C. Breckinridge, A. Rittenhouse, A. H. Wyatt, Henry Staats, W. Tuttle Bowdish, J. W. Ames, C. Buck, C. Mandeville, C. W. Wilder, T. C. Beach, David Hannaburgh, A. Palmer, Charles Dixon, J. H. Hand, H. D. Latham, George King, Stoddard Simons, C. J. North, James Shipman, David G. Downey, George L. Coburn, C. K. Sturges, T. H. Vincent, J. H. McDonald, T. S. Henderson, J. H. Slater, H. B. Munson, R. W. Raymond.

The old Bradford store building was bought by James Warner, who removed it to his land in Morton's Lane, just east of Gully Brook, where it now stands. T. A. Arnold was, for many years, one of the best ship caulkers on the Connecticut River; his often assistants were Enos Holmes and Silas Collins. Chester B. Goodrich was a farmer, esteemed by all, and for many years a pillar of the Methodist Church. Jeremy Goodrich also was highly esteemed; he lived on Broad Street, west of the cemetery; his brother Sylvester was also a warm and earnest Methodist. This church was burned down February 14, 1895. The present neat and attractive edifice was dedicated 29 January, 1896.

In 1843, the Methodists at W. Rocky Hill put up a small church edifice (still in use as such) on land donated by Dea. Joel Goodrich, on the corner of the Shunpike and Berlin roads. In 1844, Rev. B. Redford was the preacher in this modest little temple. Since that services have been maintained, with some intermission, by preachers sent by Conference, or hired for the occasion, or by students from the Wesleyan University.

Roman Catholics.—Services of this denomination were first held at the hall of the Center School-house; the first priest to officiate being the Rev. John Ryan of the Cromwell parish. In 1879, the corner stone of a church was laid, and the building was for the first time occupied in 1881.

Other Denominations.—About 1815, (so says Mr. Charles Williams, of Rocky Hill), the *Baptists* made some show of numbers and activity; but they never went so far, we believe—as to effect an organization. A little later some effort was made to establish a *Universalist* society. John Marsh used to come down from Hartford to conduct services. He discontinued his efforts in 1822. About 1876, Mr. M. C. Webster,

then recently removed thither, from Hartford, sought to revive the Universalist worship; but his project failed for want of support.

THE OLD LIBRARIES OF STEPNEY PARISH.—By a species of adoption the present LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF ROCKY HILL, is the heir to four older organizations of a similar kind—the records of which have, happily, been preserved to the present time.

1. *The Social Library*, of Stepney Society. Its records, in the handwriting of Rev. Calvin Chapin, and covering a period of 53 years (1794-1847, inclusive), contain 29 Articles (or By-Laws) and a Constitution, dated 11 Dec., 1794. Mr. Chapin was moderator of the meeting at which these were adopted and was chosen its first *librarian*. James Stanley was *clerk* and these two, with Jabez Riley, were a *Committee of management*. This Constitution, etc., was undoubtedly the work of Mr. Chapin, who was evidently the moving spirit and inspiration of the organization. Following the Constitution in this record are the names, in alphabetical order, of the original subscribers on 11 Dec., 1794—68 in all, four of them being women. The first payments, as subscriptions, or entrance fees, were nine shillings each (\$1.50); later, they were three shillings per year—and then eighteen pence (25 cents). These payments then meant more than the same amounts would now. Books were then comparatively dear, when offset by the price of farm produce. \$1.50 then represented 6 or 8 bushels of potatoes, probably more—and other produce in a like scale of values. We can see that the citizens of that period were quite as ready to contribute of their means for intellectual improvement, as are their successors of the present generation.

A copy of the first bill of books purchased is of record. It mentions 87 volumes, fairly divided between theological works proper, history, travels, poetry and fiction. They were bought in New Haven, of Isaac Beers, Jr., Jan. 7, 1795, at a cost of £26, 13s., 4d., (\$88.90). As there were no expresses in those days to transport goods about the country, some one had to go to New Haven for them—hence an item of 9s., 11d., for horse hire.—A bookcase was bought (at a cost of £2, 11s.)—which is still in use by the present association. The record shows a list of additions to this *nucleus* of books, to the aggregate of 235 volumes—as far as given in the book. Mr. Chapin resigned the librarianship in March, 1795, and was succeeded by Josiah Grimes. The library had no permanent home, and the custodian was often changed, as also was the Managing Committee. Fines were collected for any defacement of books; and in case of loss, the value of the book was exacted.

2. *The Free Library*.—At this distance of time, it may seem singular that a public library so fairly launched into existence under such favorable conditions, and with so large a list of subscribers in so small a village, should almost immediately have a competitor for favor. But, on the 5th of January, 1795, (a little less than a month after the birth of the Social Library), there was organized a "Free Library," at a meeting of which Joseph Dimock was *moderator*, and Wait Warner, *clerk*. And, by the 20th of the same month, 77 persons had subscribed to its Constitution, and paid in their fee of 75 cents, of whom 12 were *women*. Elisha Church was its first librarian. The subscribers' list is of *other* names than those found on that of the Social Library. We have, then, the names of 165 persons paying in their money, at the outset, for procuring reading in a public way, in a village where the population could not well have been more than it is at present, but among whom there was probably more life in that direction than there now is with us. Of the books in this library we have no list; like its competitor it had no permanent fund, or home, and its location and librarians were frequently changed—its earlier meetings were held in the gambrel-roofed schoolhouse of the Middle District, which stood on the little triangular green near the late Dr. Griswold's residence; and now, after several removals, resting on the Dividend road, below the burying ground, and owned by Mr. Samuel Dimock.

A question naturally arises as to why two libraries were thus started in so small a village at the same time? That it was due to some sectarian feeling could hardly have been—since, until many years after, there was but one church organization here. It might have been due to political antagonism, for, just at this juncture—about the end of Washington's administration—the Federal party (the legitimate progenitor of the present Republican party), and the Republican party of that day (the legitimate progenitor of the Democratic party of this day), had become fairly organized and party animosities were beginning to boil up in preparation for the election of '96—with a pungency and acrimony far surpassing any political contest ever witnessed by the present generation, except, perhaps, in the heat of the late Civil War.

Some have thought that the *animus* of the opposition to the elder library, was due to some objection to the character of the books purchased by it. But, in the first place (as the Library List shows) these books were not at all objectionable in character; and secondly, the organization of the second society had been effected *before* the books for the first society had been purchased.

The records of either society make no mention or hint as to the cause

of a separate organization; nor any allusion to each other's existence. They simply severely ignored one another. But there is, in the Constitution of the *Social Library* a point on which we may hang a reasonable conjecture of at least one factor for the difference. Article III, says: "If any person, after this Constitution is adopted and a Library formed, shall wish to become a proprietor, his request shall be granted when he has obtained the approbation of the Committee and paid them the same sum of money each proprietor has already paid, fines only excepted."

Here, probably, was the ground for trouble. The original members of the *Social Library* were a "close corporation;" and their Committee of three had the power to exclude whoever else might apply. Outsiders, naturally, were unwilling to submit themselves to the necessity of approbation of three persons no more than their peers, in any respect; and so, the *Free Library* was started as a protest against this method of doing business. Its fees were also one-half the amount of the *Social's* fees, and gradually the fees of both were reduced. Thus the two libraries went on until 1820. In January, of that year, a new generation having assumed the activities of life, and the old differences having died out, the *Free Library* proposed a conference with the *Social*, with a view to unite their libraries and interests. On March 9th, the two committees reported and the two library associations came together, as the report says: "On the noble principle of generosity." The *Free's* proprietors paid 50 cents and the *Social* 25 cents, as a new fund; the new combination took the name of the original institution, framed a new Constitution and put on record a list of their then (78) proprietors. In this list of names there are but about half a dozen of the 165 original proprietors of 1794-5. Of the 78 in 1820, not one is now living. In the matter of appointments to office, the collection of fines, payment of dues, etc., these library records give us a large number of the male population of the place, from 1794 to 1845; and from no other source can so many be gleaned.

In 1829, the books (some 200 in number) were overhauled and catalogued, and some volumes which were deemed unfit and "superfluous" were sold at auction, with the result of a cash addition to the treasury of \$13.22.

From this time on, the library had an abiding place in Mr. Wait Williams' store (between the present railroad freight depot and passenger station) and he was its librarian, until 1838, when the late Revillo Chapman succeeded him as librarian and store-keeper. He acted as the Library's clerk, treasurer and librarian to the end of the Society's

record—the last item of which is the payment of a tax by Jacob Griswold, in 1847—by which time the Constitution had virtually gone out of active life. Its last purchase of books was a single volume in 1837, numbered 508.

3. In June, 1855, Rev. Dr. Chapin's successor, Rev. Mr. Rockwood inaugurated a society "for mutual improvement, especially in connection with a library"—called the *Social Library Association of Rocky Hill*, of which he was made *president and librarian*; Abiel Abbott, *secretary*, and Wm. E. Williams, *treasurer*. This organization was the outgrowth of a Bible class which had met for some time at Mr. Rockwood's house, and which, by donation and otherwise had become possessed of some books, as the *nucleus* of a library. To this society, the old library devised its books (about 220), the bookcase was repaired, books re-arranged and transferred to Mr. Rockwood's dwelling, where they remained until 1860, when, being about to leave the place, he resigned as president and librarian. Dea. T. D. Williams was elected president and Horace R. Merriam, librarian and the books being transferred to the residence of Mrs. Caroline Merriam, continued there until the Autumn of 1866; from thence being taken to the Conference Room; and during all this period, there appears to have been no meeting of the membership or appointment of officers, though the library was kept in active service.

4. *The Rocky Hill Lyceum*.—On January 2, 1860, few citizens met at the Conference Room for the purpose "of considering the propriety of forming an association for the literary culture of the people generally." Of this, the Rev. Geo. Muir Smith was the moving spirit; as also was Willard Lyon, who became the first president. Its scope can be understood from the fact that it had a Concert Committee, a Library Committee and one to organize a Debating Club. During the first winter, the Lyceum had several interesting lectures delivered before large audiences by distinguished Connecticut scholars. The Lyceum membership also developed strongly in the direction of *debate*; but after two or three years, an *inertia* (not uncommon in such cases) settled down upon the members, and in the winter of 1863-4, it died out, and the sixty volumes, which formed its library was ultimately turned into the *Rocky Hill Library Association* formed in January, 1877; and which thus become heir to all the earlier organizations which had done library work. By the careful work of its members it has been enabled to erect a building for a permanent home. The librarian, Mrs. Adelaide Wright, has held the office since 1882. Its present Library building was dedicated December 8th, 1899.

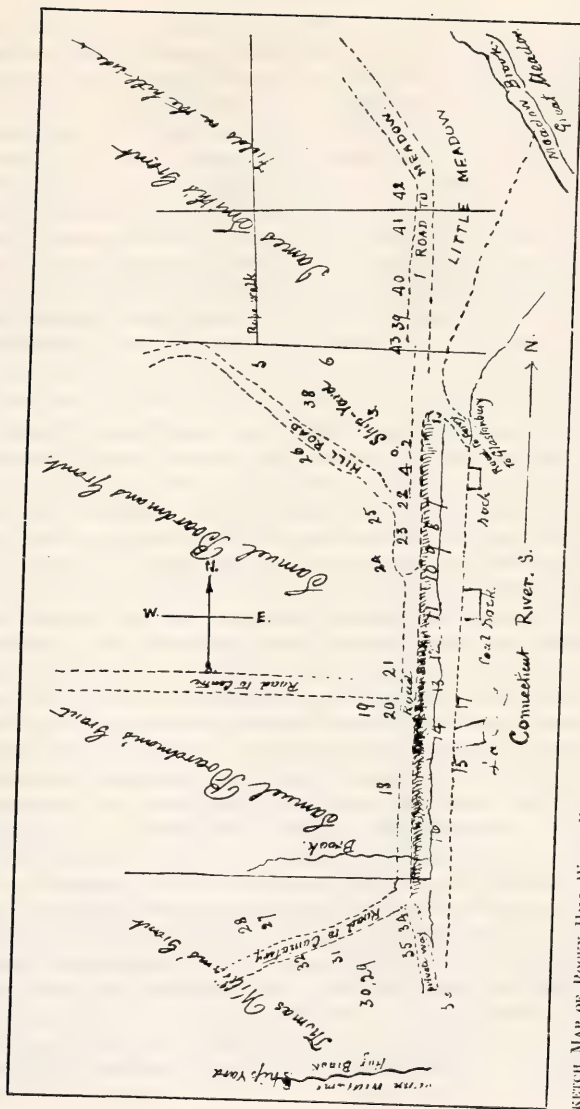
It is forty years since my professional calling began to bring me into familiar contact with a good share of the people of Rocky Hill, and I should have been dull, indeed, not to have discovered that the generation of men and women who were then passing away, had enjoyed some means of intellectual culture, other than those likely to be afforded by the weekly newspaper, and the occasional book that strayed into the homes of the New England farmer of three decades before my time. There was evidence to me, perfectly plain, that they had had access to the best English literature of their times, and that their intellectuality had been enlarged and stimulated thereby.

[We regret that limitations of space, forbid our presenting the list of names of subscribers to the *Social Library*, which is in itself a Roll of Honor, worthy of study by their descendants. The editor has a copy of Dr. Griswold's list of these subscribers, which will be placed in the library of the *Connecticut Historical Society*, at Hartford.—*H. R. S.*]

The Commercial History of Stepney—"The Landing"—Old Stores—Ship-Yards and Ship-Building—Wharves—Ferries, etc.

"THE LANDING."—Up to this point, we have discussed the spiritual and intellectual, rather than the material sides of Stepney's earliest history—the Church, the Schools, Libraries, etc. Now, we approach topics not less interesting or important—its ancient mercantile and commercial importance.

During the early commercial epoch of Stepney (now Rocky Hill) most of its River-side places of trade, were on the east side of the River-road, and along the top of the bank south of the Town Reservation. This property was, as we have elsewhere stated, the river-front of the grant which was made, 1649-50, to Samuel Boardman. But, before the death of Jonathan (probably son of James) Smith, which occurred about 1730, the Boardman grant had been acquired by Smith, who left three children, viz.: Nathan, Abigail and Hannah. Abigail married Hezekiah Grimes of Rocky Hill; Hannah married Daniel Clark of Middletown; Nathan died, unmarried in 1733 or '34, by will leaving to his sister Abigail Grimes, the use of the estate left him by his father; the same, at her death, to go to her heirs. Hannah Clark's share of that part of her father's estate included in the Boardman grant was set on the south side, presumably south of what is now Henry Street, extending to a little north of the south line as it now is, and running east to the river, so as to take in about the south third of the land now covered by the Pierce-Hardware buildings, and west to about



SKETCH MAP OF ROCKY HILL WATER-FRONT, between 1780 and 1825, made by Dr. Rufus W. Griswold, and revised by him during his last illness—showing the relative locations and areas of the original grants of lands, and (with some slight changes made within the above named period) the localities of the earliest residents. The numbers on the Map refer to Page —, wherein the names of these residents are given.—H. R. S.

the Marsh-Burket corner, on Cross Street, the south line being vaguely up along the little brook, or, perhaps, the Hill road south of it. In 1739, Hannah Clark and her husband sold out their title to this land to Jacob Williams, by deed acknowledged in Middletown before Samuel Hall, which deed is in possession of Mrs. Shipman. In 1754, he sold the north side of this lot, from the River-road west, to Oliver Pomeroy, who built on the north half of the present "long house," called "Aunt Polly Dickinson's." At the time of the sale to Williams, in 1739, and for a long time after, Ferry Street, had not been opened. There was a barn somewhere a little west of where the Pomeroy house is, and a lane led from the River-road up to it, along which lane the road was afterwards made—taking in some of Hannah Clark's, Nathan Smith's and Abigail Grimes' land. Rachel (dau. of Oliver) Pomeroy married Capt. Edward Bulkeley in 1771, and Pomeroy built (probably at that time) the south half of "the long house" for the young couple.

Abigail Grimes' share, as well as the share of which she had the use under her brother Nathan's will, extended from the lane mentioned, north to the Town's "ship-yard reservation" and to the river east. Before the distribution, and as I judge before 1750, Oliver Pomeroy had come into possession of the piece on which the house of Henry L. Hubbard now stands, the site of the old Pomeroy and the Joseph Bulkeley stores, and which ran from the river-road to the river. Abigail's and Nathan's west line was about parallel with Cross Street, and likely ran north of Prospect Street, or Short road. The indications are that Nathan's and Abigail's shares in the Boardman grant were not divided up, but kept in common. She continued in use and possession of this land after the death of her brother. At her decease, 25 March, 1792, the property was distributed by order of the Probate Court, the distributors being John Francis and Wait Robbins. Her heirs were John, Josiah and Alex. Grimes, and Mary (*nee* Grimes), 2d wife of David Webb; but at the time of the distribution, John and Josiah Grimes were dead, and *their* heirs took property in the right of their fathers. To John's heirs was set a piece of land east of the road and south of the store known as Roderick Grimes' (since burned) of 25 feet in width, running to the river, "reserved for the use of the ferry;" together with "the privilege of the ferry." Probably, this same 25 feet had, before the date of this distribution, been attached to the ferry privilege, either by the Smiths, or by Hez. Grimes, to whom the Gen. Court had conceded the liberty of keeping a ferry at the Rocky Hill Landing. This 25 feet width of land is probably still a part of the ferry property; and, as it is claimed that the ferry privilege

has lapsed, by virtue of its abandonment and under a general statute, to the Towns of Rocky Hill and Glastonbury, it may be considered as public land, and attached to the ferry. The distribution price of the ferry privilege and this 25 feet width of land running from the road to the river, was £400—\$1,333.33. As the *apparatus* of the ferry was merely a sweep—propelled flat boat—with, perhaps, a sail, and one or two skiffs, as auxiliaries, we may conjecture the *privilege* and the 25 feet of land as rated at about \$1,000. To the John Grimes' heirs was also set the land next south of this ferry-way strip to the extent of 102 $\frac{1}{3}$ feet in width at the west or highway end, and 122 $\frac{1}{3}$ feet width on the river; the same being now the Collins property. At that time it held "an old dwelling house" and "an old store," the former about where the present brick house is, though not so near to the line of the road; and "the old store," went, likely, when the store and store-house and which stood in the northwest corner of the 102 $\frac{1}{3}$ feet, abutting on the highway, were burned down in 1875. The land and old buildings were priced at a little over \$900.

To the heirs of Josiah Grimes was set about half an acre of land, triangular in shape, where the railroad freight house and passenger station now stands; on which were the "Long Tavern"—the Josiah Grimes' heirs' dwelling house—the north bound of which was the Town land—at £190. Also, on the river bank east of the road and going to the river, 89 feet front and rear, bound north on heirs of Oliver Pomeroy, south on land set to Alex. Grimes. Also, a small piece of land, width not given, running from road to river, bounded south on Pomeroy's heirs and north on Town land: so that the Pomeroy heirs held a piece between the two pieces set to Josiah Grimes' heirs. The first of these pieces was put at £133 $\frac{1}{2}$, the smaller at £15.

Alex. Grimes received a piece of land on the bank of the river 80 feet front and rear, extending from road to river: bounded south on the 25 feet set to Josiah Grimes' heirs, "for the use of the ferry," and north on the land set to Josiah's heirs—value £140—\$466.66.

It will be seen that the 80 feet set to Alex. Grimes took in the land on which is the present Grimes store and the building that stood next north of it, in which James Stanley once traded: and that the south piece set to Josiah, west from the north line of the Stanley store to about the south line of the building now occupied by Mr. Hubbard, on which, later, were the Bradford and the Justus Bulkely stores.

To Mary (second wife and wid. of David) Webb, was set the lane from road to river, next south of the parcel set to the heirs of John Grimes, deceased, 88 $\frac{2}{3}$ feet wide, next to the river and 73 $\frac{2}{3}$ feet

wide at the west and on the road, and bounded south on land of Wm. Webb. This was where the Pierce Hardware shops now are, or rather the north two-thirds of the building, about the south third being on the north side of the half acre belonging at that time to Capt. Wm. Webb, to whom it had come from his father David (who had died, at sea, of small-pox, Oct. 9, 1770), and which had been acquired from Jacob Williams. By this distribution to the widow Mary Webb, of this part of the Smith property, it became attached to the Webb strip of land south and next to it, and thus remained. On the Webb lot stood the old house that was occupied by Justus Candee, at or previous to 1876, and which was burned in September of that year, along with the foundry buildings, the front one of which had been built by Neff & Merriman for a carriage shop, about 1835.

Abigail Grimes lived to the age of 90, dying in 1792. As, under the will of her brother, she had only the use of the real estate held from him, that use ran for 83 years and on, into the period of the active ship-building and commercial business at The Landing. In the distribution of the river-side property, on the east side of the road, there is no mention made of any buildings on the south lot, set to the heirs of Josiah, or that set to Alexander, 169 feet of point.

There was an old store and an old house on the lot set to heirs of John, the house being the home of Abigail Grimes till her death, and of her husband till his death in 1799. There is also mention of Josiah's house on the west side of the road, but not of a store on that parcel of land. From this want of mention of buildings it would seem that the stores elsewhere spoken of in this history, viz.: the trading places of JUSTUS BULKELEY, of WM. BRADFORD, of JAMES STANLEY and of ASA DEMING, the two first on the lot set to the heirs of Josiah Grimes and the two last on the land set to Alexander (familiarily known as "Daddy") Grimes, were not in existence in 1792; but it is quite certain that they had *all* been built long before that time, and all on *leased* land; as had also the store on the west side of the road, at the apex of the triangular piece of land on which was the old Long Tavern, which had been Josiah's home. Asa Deming, who traded in the South store on the Alexander lot, in 1792, as I am told, built the house in which John L. Thayer now lives—a rather costly house for the period, and not likely to be put up until the builder had amassed some means in trade. This *store*, though it stood on the land of Alex. Grimes and his heirs, did not come into the possession of the Grimes, except as tenants, until several years after Mr. Roderick (son of Alexander) Grimes, traded in it. He leased of

other parties down to about 1830; the latter part of the time of Capt. Jason Boardman. I conclude that Wm. Bradford was trading at The Landing, in what was afterward the Methodist Meeting-house, some years prior to 1792. I am told by Mrs. Fanny Camp that he built the house on Bradford Hill, in 1784; if so, he was likely in trade at the river earlier, although before going into trade, he had a small shop, as a silversmith, just at the foot of the hill on which he built his house, and near by the road as it now runs.

After the Bradford store was removed, Roderick Grimes occupied the strip of land upon which it stood—the strip going to the river—and added it to the Alex. Grimes patch that joined it on the south; and the other part of the lot, on which was the Justus Bulkeley store, has, of late years, become attached to the Oliver Pomeroy property north of it. As Oliver Pomeroy built the north half of the Aunt Polly Dickinson house (corner Ferry Street and Railroad Row), in 1754; it is reasonable to suppose that he was trading at The Landing, at this time, and the evidence tends to show that he, or some one before him, had bought the strip of land on which the store stood previous to that time. I judge that the Pomeroy store was one of the earliest places of trade—perhaps *the* earliest, with the possible exception of “the old store” that stood in the corner next south of the 25-foot ferry way, and where, later, another building was put up. The indications are that “the old store,” considerably antedated 1750; and that Pomeroy was in his, at about that date.

The distribution of the Nathan Smith and Abigail Grimes estates is of the two in common, and includes not only the land on the river front, but the tract on the hillside next north of the shipyard, that the town, in 1672, had conceded to James Smith; and there is nothing in the distribution indicating Nathan’s or Abigail’s respective parts of the land. As further touching the building of the river-side store on *leased* land, it may be stated that, in 1813, when Roderick Grimes commenced business in the Asa Deming store, it being then and for some years after, an *old* looking building, he hired the *ground* of his father Alex., and the *building* of another party. In 1835, he acquired of Capt. Jason Boardman, the then owner, the building, but not the land, until after the death of his aunt Sophronia Grimes in 1860—she having held it as a part of her father’s estate. Mr. Roderick Grimes bought the James Stanley store in the same manner, acquiring the land afterward; he also bought the land where the Wm. Bradford store stood, after the removal of the building, in 1843. Both of these,

as also the Justus Bulkeley store north, were subject for a great many years to the same sort of double control.

Up to the present time of writing (1887), I have not been able to learn the date of erection, or the names of the builders of any of the *old* buildings around The Landing; nor how Jonathan Smith came into possession of the Boardman grant. Nor can I learn when OLIVER POMEROY came here. He died in 1776; his wife is thought to have been a Williams. He was probably succeeded in trade by Joseph (son of Peter) Bulkeley, who was b. in 1742, and died in 1821, ae. 79. Joseph's wife was Mary (dau. of Capt. Moses) Williams. He was succeeded by his sons Henry and Walter Williams, the former born in 1793, the latter in 1797, who had conducted the business for some time before their father's death. They gave up business between 1830-5. Henry (elsewhere spoken of) married late in life, Martha Tucker and left a large family. Walter W. went south in the winter of 1833-4; on his return home, the steamer *Wm. Penn*, in which he was a passenger, was burned; and though he escaped, and was cared for in Philadelphia, he died from exposure and shock, the same night, March 2, 1834. He owned and occupied for a time the John Williams house on South Street. He married in 1830, Lucy (dau. of Levi) Robbins, and left two daus. Amelia, who m. Rev. Horace Williams, and Susan, who m. Hiram H. Webb.

JUSTUS BULKELEY, who traded next south of Joseph Bulkeley, was a brother of Joseph, born in 1752, and died 1829, ae. 77; married Mabel Boardman, 1781, and probably began trade about that time. His second wife was the widow of Ackley Risley (her maiden name Lucretia Churchill) and his third wife was Mehitable Culver. I think he was succeeded in trade by Capt. Isaac Goodrich, who seems previously to have been at the old store that stood just east of the north part of Oliver Pomeroy's house. Goodrich died in 1831, ae. 68.

I suppose WM. BRADFORD to have been the first to trade in the store which he occupied, but possibly not. He came to Rocky Hill from Glastonbury, but was originally (we think) from East Haddam or Haddam. His wife was a Lewis from Haddam. He was born in 1758, began trade here probably sometime after the Revolutionary War and died in 1823, ae. 65. Archibald Robbins probably succeeded him in trade for a time.

Another importation into Rocky Hill was JAMES STANLEY, who died in 1816, ae. 69, which would make him born about 1747. He commenced business here a little before Bradford; though he was not so much in the retail line as the latter. He seems to have been more of

an importer, or wholesale merchant in the West India trade, and heavy dry goods. He married Sarah Butler in 1773. After his going out of business, the store become a store house and packing place for the larger part of the agricultural products exported from Rocky Hill; and continued to be used as such up to about 1875, by Roderick Grimes, and later by Horace Warner of Wethersfield, Jason A. Robbins and others.

When the next store south was erected, we do not know. It was a much older looking building (1825-30) than it now is; and may have been in service before either the Bradford or Stanley stores. It was occupied by ASA DEMING, a merchant of the 1800, and earlier period. Roderick Grimes went into trade in this store in 1813, and continued there until 1859, just before his death; having with him, from 1843-48, his son Marshall in partnership.

The "old store" in which JUSTUS ROBBINS traded, next south to the strip to the ferry-way, may have been used, for some sort of trade, by Hezekiah Grimes, but we cannot be certain. Justus Robbins married Clarinda (da. of Gen. Jabez) Huntington, in 1790; and was probably trading here before and for some years after. He failed in business and was followed, for a time, by his son-in-law, EDMUND BULKELEY, who married his dau. Nancy in 1811. After him came ABIJAH (son of Abijah) COLLINS, who was baptized 1770, and married Polly Warner in 1812. He replaced the "old store" with a new building; and much later moved his business into the north front room of his brick building. He d. 24 April, 1832, and with him went down another of the water-side places of trade. For a short time from 1842 on, Mr. C. had as a partner, Mr. Albert L. Warner, who subsequently went to Middletown.

The earliest occupant who traded in the store which stood just north of the present railroad passenger station, of whom we have knowledge, was WM. (son of Elias) WILLIAMS, who had his dwelling on the corner of South Street and the Dividend Road, a place given him by his father. He died in 1831, ae. 73. We think that his son Wait Williams had taken the business before the death of the father. Wait married Sarah Williams in 1783, and dying at New Orleans, 27 Dec., 1829, in his 44th year, was succeeded in business by Mr. REVILO CHAPMAN. Dr. Daniel Fuller occupied a part of the store for a retail drugstore there for many years up to 1840, or thereabouts, and Mr. Chapman continued the trade in a small way until his death in 1816; Wait Williams married Sally Dimock in 1818. John Lockwood went into business in the Williams store with Chapman about 1887, and

were there long enough (a few months only) to see Chapman cleaned out and ruined.

Mrs. Margaret Jagger and Mrs. Mary Anne Shipman think that a clerk, named Foster, at one time kept store at The Landing, in a store which stood upon the Mary Webb property, north of the old Candee house, and that the building afterwards became a barn in the rear of that house.

Pease and Niles' *Gazeteer*, published 1819, says as to Wethersfield: "The Town has 5 distilleries; 4 tanneries; 3 grain mills; 2 sawmills; 3 fulling mills; 2 carding machines; 15 mercantile stores and 1 rope walk." Of these, as herein noted, 1 *distillery* was in Rocky Hill, south of The Landing; we have no trace of any other. Of the 4 *tanneries*, 2 were here, Eliakim Smith's and Merriam Williams'. 2 of the 3 *grain mills* were here, at Dividend, and by the IX milestone. One of the *sawmills* mentioned was in Rocky Hill, likely at the east end and below New Farms Street, of Ashbel and Leonard Belden. One *fulling mill* was in the same neighborhood and one *carding machine*. The *rope walk* (elsewhere mentioned) was at this end of the town. Of the 15 *mercantile stores*, I think 8 or 9, or more, were in Stepney—two or three at The Landing (as described), perhaps two, at the Centre Corners. The majority were here, because, at that period Wethersfield had no good landing place—and there was an excellent one here; so, the bulk of commerce coming here, the "mercantile stores" followed suit.

It has been a frequent remark among the residents of the river-side, for the last 50 years, that the refusal of the Grimes family to part with any of the land on the north two-thirds of the Boardman grant, during the period from 1775 to 1825, kept Rocky Hill from being the place of importance which it would have been, had a more liberal policy been followed. It is alleged that outside parties, convinced of the great advantages for commercial business, endeavored in vain to purchase land here whereon to establish themselves; but that the owners, scenting increased value of their lands in the future, would not sell—and so the opportunity passed. This may be so—it has been so in other places; but, from what has been said, it is probable that the long life-lease interest of Aunt Abigail, in the property which came from her grandfather Jonathan and Uncle Nathan, may have been a more potent factor in the case. Of course, a co-operation of the parties in interest, calling for an order from the Probate Court, might have removed that bar and admitted enterprise from without. But from what we have heard, from talk handed down in the family and community,

we judge that mothers and sons, and some of the grandchildren, having "great expectations," were opposed to the sale—and thus the possible future growth and glory of the water-side at Stepney, vanished forever, like the fog in the morning.

Having thus discussed the Old Stores and other antiquities of The Landing at Stepney, we proceed to consider its broader commercial aspect. For though there were landing places and warehouses at the north end of the Town (present Wethersfield) yet Stepney's natural advantages seem to have rendered her naturally *the* "port" of the Township.

The Ship-Yard Reservation.—With a keen appreciation of these advantages, and an early prescience of the business which might be done here at some future time, the early Wethersfield colonists, in December, 1672, while the town was yet but little more than a wilderness, reserved 5 acres of land at the Riverside for a Public Landing, and provided that it might also be used for a shipyard. This 5 acres abutted on the river and extended up the hill on the northeast side of the present north road to the landing (Prospect Street), coming to a point on the road just above the small gambrel-roofed house where Jos. Shelly now lives, once occupied by Allen Belden. This house, the "old sail loft" house, the small house opposite the Belinda Goodrich place, the Isaac Belden place next, and the Geo. E. Belden house, all stand upon this shipyard reservation. The southerly boundary is uncertain, but goes to the river a few feet south of the old sail-loft building. At the same time, the Town gave 20 acres of land to Joseph Smith, next north, including the present orchard of Jason A. Robbins and coming up about where Edward Flint now lives and taking in the Mrs. Chas. G. Beaumont house, and bounded northwest on what became the Ames lot. The condition attached to Smith's grant was that he should maintain a gate and a fence between himself and the shipyard land. The Smith grant at its river east-half lay behind the reservation. From about where the E. S. Belden house now is, a road ran across the yard reservation north, and was extended up along the east knee of the Rocky Hill, through what are now old pastures nearly to the northern end of the hill.

The road was abandoned nearly, or more than 100 years ago and another made at the foot of the hill long before the hillside road went out of use—the Meadow road. In a distribution of property from the estates of Nathan Smith and Abigail Grimes, a piece of land set to Alex. Grimes, in 1792, is described as "bounded west on a highway * * * and south on the terris [terrace] land." This must have been

a part of the Joseph Smith concession, lying behind the shipyard lot, and the bounding of "west on highway" indicates that the old first road was still a road (though it might not have been in use, as such) at that date, which was 142 years after it was first opened.

There appears to have been some connection between the "Shipyard Reservation" and the "gate and fence" that Smith was to maintain between his own and the shipyard land, the covenant between him and the Town being that he should support the fence. An hundred and twenty-five years after this grant to Smith, Alex. Grimes ("Uncle Aleck") father of Roderick and grandfather of Mary Ann Shipman (now living) who was descended from Joseph Smith on the maternal line and to whom had come (through Nathan Smith and his sister Abigail Grimes) a portion of this 20 acre grant, had a legal controversy with the Town about its proprietorship. It may reasonably be taken for granted that the fence in question had been abandoned; but Mr. Grimes successfully resisted the claim of the Town that the grant had been forfeited. But out of this controversy and the sifting of the questions involved, the succeeding generation obtained the impression that the original Smith grant was really a part of the "Shipyard Reservation."

Ship Building.—It is uncertain as to when this first began in this yard, but it was probably not for many years after the date of reservation, though there may have been a little done there as early as 1700. At the time of the reservation, and for a hundred years after, the river at that point came in very much nearer to the foot of the hill north of the ferry landing, and nearly up to the meadow as it is now. In later years, portions of this ship land were disposed of by the Town to various persons and were built upon; until finally, after the construction of the railroad through it, in 1871, the small remainder was converted into the Water-Side-Hill Park, and fenced.

We judge, that, by 1750, ship building was quite brisk in the yard north of the landing, and, by 1770, it had increased, and during the Revolutionary War increased in importance still more. About 1797, Mr. John Williams began building in a yard at the mouth of Hog Brook, on the south side. We conjecture that there might also have been some vessels built on the north side of the brook, where the yard of the Messrs. Belden now is; but, the only evidence of this is that in digging there for the present yard, the soil has furnished some indications of a former occupancy for the same purposes. Seventy-five years ago and later, the present ship yard was a fine *onion* garden. The ship building industry began to decay about 1820.

As having some connection with ship building, we may here note that about 1800, Mr. Elisha Callender engaged in sail making at The Landing, and carried on an extensive business in the large building on the west side of the road at the turn to the Ferry—property more recently known as the Sylvester Whitcomb place. Mr. Chas. Williams advances the idea (quite probable) that Mr. Elisha Callender's father (also named Elisha), who d. here in 1816, æ. 79, and who married Sarah Crane, was a sail-maker at the same place before the Revolutionary War. Upon the hill, where E. S. Belden's present residence is, there was a *rope walk*, which was laid out on the line of the old road before mentioned, and extended north for a fourth of a mile, and was covered in for half that distance. It probably dated from 1800, perhaps was established by Jonathan Bill; Samuel Bill ran it in 1806, and for some years. Later it was operated by Abner or James Church, and finally by John Chauncey, and was abandoned about 1825. An Olmsted, who married Bill's daughter was also in the business; the store, storehouse and office (all one building) connected with the rope walk, was converted into a dwelling house and used as such until E. S. Belden built his own home, in 1874, when it was moved to the rear of his residence, and is now used as a barn. The Isaac Belden house, next east, belonged at one time, it is said, to the rope-walk property.

At the period of which we are speaking, and in connection with the ship building, JOSEPH NEFF, we are told, in 1808, carried on this business of *pump and block* making; and SAMUEL (father of Chas. E.) BUTLER also made pumps and blocks and ship's *spars*, or masts, for the vessels built here. This work was done near The Landing, in the rear of where the hardware front-building now is—but all went down, when ship building declined. ELISHA CALLENDER, Sen., manufactured sails in the Old Sail Loft.

Elsewhere, we have given the names of some citizens of this town, who were engaged in ship building during the last quarter of the 18th and the first quarter of the 19th century. There were more living within the remembrance of our now oldest townsman; and it is through these channels of information, that we know there was a still older class of ship builders and seafaring men—and that the business of building ships was carried on by a generation, or two generations of men, older than those mentioned.

Capt. GIDEON GOODRICH, who died in 1769, æ. 72; his brother OLIVER, Sen., who died in 1780, æ. 66; Capt. JOHN BOARDMAN, who was lost at sea, 1780; Capt. JACOB WILLIAMS, who lived at The Land-

ing in 1750, and before, dying in 1751, *ae.* 62; Capt. MOSES WILLIAMS, who died in 1810, *ae.* 81; Capt. ISHABOD GOODRICH, contemporary with Capt. WM. GRISWOLD; Capt. WAIT WARNER, the same, or older; Capt. EPHM. GOODRICH, dying in 1769, *ae.* 72; Capt. JOHN WARNER, here in 1750; Capt. JOHN WELLS, also died 1769; Capt. DAVID WELLS, who died 1770; Capt. JONAH BUTLER, Sen., of the same period; Capts. EDWARD, STEPHEN and PRESCOTT BULKELEY, of the same generation as DAVID WEBB, but living longer; Capt. GERSHOM NOTT, who was running a brig here in 1735, and who died in 1772; and others, of some of whom no record can be found, and whom even tradition has forgotten, were sailing from here: and it is quite certain that they commanded vessels built here and were owners or part owners in them; and that these vessels were either built on their own account, or built for their command, by other parties resident here. It was a very usual thing for a captain to have an ownership in the vessel he commanded either in the coasting, or the West India trade. He frequently owned the whole, or a part of the cargo. Of course these crafts were small, many not over 50 tons, and many less than that. The oldest of these Rocky Hill seamen of whom we have evidence is Capt. JACOB WILLIAMS, born in 1689, who was probably sailing out of Conn. River in the first quarter of the 1700's:—thence on until about 1750. There were also, at this time, sea captains residing in Weth. whose craft must have loaded at Ry-II., wharves. JOHN ALLEN was running a vessel from Weth. in 1721; Capt. CALEB GRISWOLD, who died 1754, *ae.* 49; Capt. CRAFTS WRIGHT, dying in 1766, *ae.* 40; NICH. AYRAULT, dying in 1775, at age of 70. ELISHA WILLIAMS owned vessels in trade from here in 1738; JOHN BULKELEY was master of a vessel in 1768 and JOSEPH SMITH in 1772—thus proving that ship-building was going on here from very early in the 1700's and all along down the century.

Probably the larger part of the vessels we have named were launched either from the old Town Ship-Yard, established 1672, at Stepney; or from John Williams' Yard at Hog Brook. But, with the exception of the comparatively few built at the latter place, and perhaps three or four from the yard at Dividend, and two built quite *away* from the River, it may safely be asserted that the "Old Ship Yard" was the cradle of ship construction all down the years. So far as we know, this portion of the water-front was open for use to *any* town-resident. How its occupancy was adjusted between the various ship-builders, we know not; but doubtless it was by some well understood regulation of comity; and it would be fair to suppose that the Town granted to

certain parties the privilege of occupying certain specified portions for definite lengths of time. At launchings, in the olden times, it was customary for *all* the men employed in the yard, by different employers, to turn out and assist—with, of course, the usual following of a supper and full rations of Jamaica Rum.

Ship building, in these days (1750-1820) was somewhat different from what it now is. The raw material was nearly all worked out at the yard. There were then no appliances for bending timbers by steam—logs were sawed up, in the yard, by hand (cross-cut sawing,—one man in a pit made for the purpose, and another on the ground, above the pit), when a log was to cut lengthwise for planking; bolts, spikes, and nearly all the nails used were made in the near-by smithies; pins were shaped with a broad-axe. All this involved a greater amount of labor than would be called for now-a-days, for a like vessel; and it is evident that the Rocky Hill ship yard of that day must have employed a large force of workmen.

Mr. Charles Williams relates, “ I remember, at one time, (about 1814) of six vessels being on the stocks, at the yard above The Landing, and two below the mouth of the Brook. There must have been 100 (probably more) built in Ry-II., from 1750, or a little earlier, to 1825. Of their names, I recall the very large sloop, the *Robbins*, owned by Capt. Wait Robbins, of So. Weth. (then in Stepney parish). The largest sloop I ever saw, was the *Julia*, owned by Capt. Jason Boardman, who also owned the schr. *Richmond*, packet and others. Those vessels were generally painted black, with a single streak of white on the gunwale. The last vessels built in the North Yard, which I remember, were the schr. *Marshall* for Roderick and Richard Grimes, and the schr. *Energy* for H. and W. W. Bulkeley. Many vessels were built here for Hartford owners. My father built probably 25 or 30 in all. In 1797, he built the schr. *Sally*; in 1801 the schr. *Victory*; in 1807, the schrs. *Friendship* and *Nancy*; in 1808, the sloop *Merino*, which vessel was captured by the British in 1812 off Saybrook and burned at New London. Between 1808 and 1813, he lost five vessels with their cargoes. He built a second schooner, named the *Sally*, after his second wife, which was capsized 12 hours out of Saybrook, off Montauk Point and lost, with her cargo of 18 horses, 8 head of cattle, hay &c.,—bound to Bermuda.

“The sloops *Charles*, *Paragon*, *Jack* and an earlier *Sally*, and the schr. *Hannah* were also of his building. One of them was built in *the highway*, directly opposite the later residence of Samuel (gd-father of Dea. J. G.) Dimock, who lived at the Ackley Williams’ place—being master-workman. It was intended that it should be taken when finished

(as was expected, in early winter) on runners to the River; but not being completed in time for that, it was placed on wheels made especially for the purpose, nearly 4 ft. in diameter, the holes for the axles being about 10 in. in diameter, and it took some fifty men and sixty yoke of oxen (and a half barrel of St. Croix rum) when it became necessary occasionally to lift the wheels out of the mud—to get her to the River! The last vessel of my father's building, was put up in the yard between his house and barn—and was drawn across lots in the winter of 1817-18, on runners. It was a 40-ton sloop, called the *Independence*."

In 1873, SEABURY BELDEN and his son, Eugene, bought the Ship-Yard property near the mouth of Hog Brook, together with some adjoining properties, and began ship-building, north of the brook, thus reviving a business that had been defunct for over 40 years. The senior member of the firm had originally carried on ship-building in Midd., and at Dutch Point, Hartford, for many years before locating at Ry-H. The firm has builded at this latter place, between 1869 and 1891, 7 schooners, 12 barges and one yacht-sloop—or a total of 20 vessels—varying from 7.58 to 460.35 tonnage, of which we have all the details but—not the space—to publish. Mr. H. A. Grant was, about 1876, a partner for a short time, in this firm.

About 1802, a Mr. SHAILER from Haddam, began the building of small craft at Dividend—which continued for a few years.

Many incidents of misfortune in the sea-faring lives of residents of the town have come down to us. From May 7 to Aug. 17, 1782, of 22 American seamen taken on the brigantine *Gen. Greene* (believed to have belonged here) by the British ships patrolling Long Island Sound, there died at New York James White, Daniel Marsh, Burrage Bulkeley, Wm. Meldrum, Hezekiah Blinn and his son Jerah, Wm. Curtis, Benj. Wright, John Burns, and at Saybrook on his return home, John Price. These were Rocky Hill men. Roger Price, a prisoner to the English, died at Jamaica in 1782. Coming down later we have as an item the tradition that in one season, (about 1812) twenty-two men were counted up from the place as having perished at sea. This must have been an uncommonly fateful year for the sailors from here; but there were frequent cases of men going hither and losing their lives on the water or by fever contracted at the ports visited. Vessels went out and in some instances were never heard from. This traditional loss of twenty-two men in one season from so small a place indicates something of the numbers engaged in seafaring life from the parish, and of the business in that direction.

From 1780 to 1820 there was probably an average of twenty vessels owned at Stepney and in Weth. proper—sailing mostly from the former place to Cuba, Porto Rico, Jamaica, St. Croix, the Barbadoes, Antigua, Bermuda, the Canaries and to ports in Western Europe, and all the sea-coast places in the States. During the Napoleonic wars the island of St. Bartholomew was a frequent resort for these vessels; as, being a Swedish territory, it offered a neutral port for legal trade; and for sometime after the Non-intercourse Act, it was the only West Indies port to which American vessels could trade. After the Peace of 1783 there was an improvement in the carrying-trade. From 1797-1801, during the Adams' administration, the trouble between France and the U. S. interfered much with American commerce. French privateers from Guadeloupe and Martinique captured many American vessels—some of which were from Stepney, and other Conn. River towns. The owners of these vessels were never reimbursed for losses, although the French Government, in the sale of the Louisiana country, specifically made reparation to our Government, as intended payment for the captured vessels—the “French Spoliation Act” of which we occasionally hear, when a spasm of virtuous honesty comes over the powers that be.

The vessels employed here as elsewhere at the Conn. River towns were often called “horse jockeys” presumably, because they so frequently carried out cargoes of horses for trade. They were well built and strong, though rather slow sailors; with low decks, high waist and not as sharp in the bows as is now the style. But, they were generally good sea-boats, varying from 50 to 200 tons. The larger ones were either two-topsail schooners, or full rigged brigs; the smaller were generally sloop-rigged, having one stout, and not very high mast, but carrying a very large standing topsail and a big main-sail. They made two, sometimes (though rarely) three voyages a year to the W. I.; had often to lay long in port to pick up a cargo, and trade off the produce carried out. Often the boats were sent a long distance along the coast, or inland, to gather up molasses, sugar and rum from the large estates; and it was on these coast trips that the crew often contracted fevers of which they died. From 20 up to 60 head of horses, or cattle, were shipped, also pigs, sheep and large amounts of poultry. Five hundred pounds of hay, 10 bushels of oats, 110 gallons of water, was the usual allowance for each head of horse or cattle. The boys of the village would sometimes consign a coop-ful of hens, as their first venture, Officers, or part owners, and members of the crew often had small ventures.¹ The supercargoes were

¹ Some idea of the extent to which the people of Wethersfield were interested in these maritime industries and interests, may be gained from the following

young men of the town. There were also voyages to Spain, Portugal, and occasionally to the west coast of Africa, whence they brought home ivory, ebony, etc.,—and, no doubt, occasionally, they lapsed into the carrying of a cargo of negroes. As, up to 1812, the U. S. was a neutral country its vessels could enter largely into the carrying trade for those nations that were at war. The W. I. planters needed large supplies; the English needed large amounts of beef, flour, etc., for their naval forces at sea and troops in garrison in their island possessions; and much of all this went out from New England ports—in all of which Stepney had its share.

It would be difficult for the resident of the present Rocky Hill village, to realize what a scene of bustling activity old Stepney Landing presented during the period (1750 to about 1820) of its commercial prosperity. There were then eight or nine stores about the landing, whose owners were owners of the vessels being built in the adjoining ship-yard, or taking on goods, or unloading at the docks. These stores all dealt in so-called West India goods (rum, brandy, wines, sugars, teas, molasses, salt, sea-coal, etc.) and in "domestics"—all imported directly, and all did a fair trade. Among their exports were horses, cattle, hogs, hay, hoop-poles, barrel-staves, salted beef, pork and fish, potatoes, onions, etc.,—and sometimes (for ballast) brick. Often these exports were shipped by first owners and sent "on venture;" at other times, these dealers at The Landing bought of the farmers, and shipped at their own risk.

During the period of which we have been speaking it was the general custom, when vessels left for sea, to have prayers put up in the church

items taken from the Lister's or Assessor's Books of the Town of Wethersfield for the years, 1730, 1732 '33 and '34—of those who paid taxes upon their investments in shipping viz. In *Old Society* (Wethersfield proper).

Ayrault, Peter, 1-16 of a sloop 1734; *Nicholas*, "10 tons of sloop"; 1733-34, and in 1737, they were owners of a sloop: *Belden*, Thos. 1730, $\frac{1}{4}$ part of sloop, in 1733, $\frac{1}{8}$, the Beldens all had a turn for this kind of investment—in 1736 *Jonathan* and *Silas* had 9 tons each, Thos. $\frac{1}{4}$ of a 60 ton sloop, *Ebenezer* 1-16 of a 65 ton sloop and also 1-6 to 1-2 16th part of a 70 ton sloop; *Boardman*, David, 1737, part owner of 2 sloops, Timothy, 1736, had 8 tons in a sloop; *Butler Samuel*, "9 tons of a sloop," 1737; *Coleman*, John, 4 1-2 tons of "slope"; John, Jr., in 1736, owned "1-8 of a sloop of 80 tons"; *Francis*, John, 1736, 1-8 of sloop of 70 tons; 1736, *Goodwin*, Thomas, 4 1-4 sloop of 50, and 1-8 of sloop of 80 tons, in 1737, an 18th part of a "scooner" of 90 ton, and 1-4 of sloop of 50 tons; *Griswold*, Elisha, 1737—a 17th part of sloop, *Diamond*, in 1736, 1-16 of sloop; same year Caleb G., ditto; *Josiah* part owner, 1737 of 2 sloops, and 1736 he and Jacob G. owned 3-16 of a sloop; *Nott*, John, 1736—18 tons in sloop; *Rose*, Sgt. John, 1736, "5 toons of a sloop"; *Ephraim Williams*, 1737, 8 "part of a sloop of 70 tons". *Wells*, Gideon, 9 tons in a vessel, 1737; 1730, *Nath'l Stillman* and *Samuel Wright, Jr.*, each "part of a sloop." *H. R. S.*

for their safe return; and, *vice versa*, the congregation was asked to offer thanks when they returned, for their safe deliverance from the perils of the deep. Capt. Joseph Butler always had this done on his departure to, or arrivals from, the West Indies. One of Mr. Williams' stories is connected with this custom, viz. One John Gibbs, owning and living at the Horace Williams' (late Albro Griswold) place was a strict observer of times and seasons—in a religious sense. His Sunday began at sunset of Saturday, his cows were all milked and the "chores" all done before that hour; and, contrariwise, the cows were not brought up from the pasture on Sabbath, until *after* sundown. This keeping Saturday night, as a part of the holy day, was then common among all religious people; and Mr. G. was nothing if not religious. So, when, having buried his wife about the middle of one week, he went to Salisbury on the succeeding Monday, brought back a new wife on Saturday (before sun-down), and with a broad crape on his hat and his bride in deep mourning, appeared in church on Sabbath morning, the matter caused some comment; and some wag stuck up, in the church porch (and directly below one of Capt. Butler's requests) a similar notice that "Mr. John Gibbs requests that the thanks of the church should be offered, for his safe return from Salisbury"—to the great amusement of the community.

Home-Trade and Business.—Besides its coasting and foreign commerce, Rocky Hill had (before the construction of the N. H. & Northampton Canal, in 1822) a very considerable retail home-trade, on the East from the towns across the River, and on the West with Newington, Weth. proper, Berlin and New Britain. At one time Farmington merchants owned three vessels that traded regularly from Ry.-H. Of course, the export of live stock expired with the decay of shipping from this port; but the potato, onion and apple-trade in the autumn continued largely, either by water or the railroad until about 1870, since which it has become nearly *nil*. The growth of Hartford's population, as also of the cities of New Britain and Meriden have supplied nearer and better markets for agricultural produce.

During the period from the beginning of the Revolutionary War to 1825 or '30, a large number of Ry.-H's. young men—in common with many of the sea-bordered New England States, took up the seafaring life. Manufacture as now conducted in America, was then unborn; agriculture did not absorb the energies of an increasing population; and not until after the close of the War of 1812, were the States so divorced from the Old Country as to take up manufacturing to any degree; so that the sea offered the only outlet to the young men of the day. So it

happened, that, from 1800, the Academy in this town instructed young men in the science of Navigation; while craft leaving the River afforded them the opportunity of practical training. Rocky Hill then had its full quota of good sea-captains and able seamen—since about 40 per cent. of its male inhabitants, between the ages of 16 and 60, were engaged in seafaring service, or ventures. There was, however, another class of young men adventurers, who, as young men will, in every generation, sought abroad the opportunities for the exercise of their abilities, which are denied them by the narrow limits of their birthplaces. To these, the Southern States offered large inducements.

Going South.—All along the years, from about 1780 to 1835, a goodly number of young men from the southern parts of New England “went South” into the Southern States—some to settle there permanently, either in trade or in mechanical pursuits; some as peddlers of Northern manufactured goods; others, again, as workmen at their trades, for the winter months. Tin and pewter goods were largely exported and sold in the South; later, Connecticut-made clocks and wagons were in great demand there. It was a common thing to go out every Autumn and return in the Spring; the trip forth and back being made by water. Stepney contributed its full share of these (mostly) young men, as mechanics, peddlers and tradesmen of various sorts, direct from The Landing; or, sometimes in vessels from Midd. or New London, New Haven or New York;—on their return taking the first vessel sailing to any of these points. The voyage to Charleston or Savannah averaged about ten days, sometimes less, but oftener more. Extracts from a collection of old letters in possession of Elizabeth M. and Sarah G. Williams, grandchildren of Thomas Danforth, manufacturer of pewter goods, at Stepney, furnishes us with the following items concerning this annual Northern invasion of the South. They are mostly written by Thomas Danforth, Jr., who was a pewterer by trade, probably having learned it in his father’s shop.

One of his letters, dated at Philadelphia, Jan. 1st, 1807, speaks of “going to the play,” at the cost of “four and sixpence;” the plays which he heard and saw being “Hints and Husbands” and “Robin Hood,” and he says “the house was crowded.” Also, “we have begun turning pewter and have completed over 5000 weight. I have made a considerable many spoons, and think I can turn plates almost as well as Emory.” This letter was to his sister, Miss Betsy Danforth. April 21, 1809, young Danforth has just returned from Philadelphia, having come *via* New Haven, and by stage, home. His father is in Philadelphia, and the son writes to him “I shall pack up the tin and tools on Monday,

I think presumably to go to Phila., as Capt. Oliver Goodrich has got a vessel going next week to New York."

Jan. 31, 1811, Betsy Danforth, writing from home to her father in Philadelphia, says, "respecting lead-work, it is thought if you are here the first of April, you will have it all to do. Mr. Jason Robbins says he shall depend upon you to do his. * * * Thomas Boardman writes he has plenty of work." This Boardman, who probably learned his trade with Thomas Danforth, was later of the firm of Thos. Danforth and S. Boardman for many years in business in Hartford, and later of Boardman and Hart, in New York. March 12, 1811, Thomas Danforth, Jr., being still in Philadelphia, writes to his father in Stepney "I cast 40 doz. comp. [osition ?] plates yesterday, and trips, and turned them outside to-day." June, 1812. T. Danforth is in Phila., working for a Mr. Barns, and with him was Mr. Nott, of Stepney. War with England was imminent, and he writes, "There were about 200 or 300 soldiers passed through this town yesterday, going on to Albany. They had about 20 cannon, drawn by 4 horses each, with two riders, and four large baggage waggons, with five horses to each. This looks like War." Nov. 27, 1818, young Danforth is in Augusta, Geo., working for North & Rowe in a new shop, built "since I left home last Spring, especially for pewter and tin business. Peddlers are doing extraordinarily well. North & Rowe had one come in that was gone three weeks and brought them in \$1200 in cash. Giles Griswold is setting the pewter business agoing by horse power." Generally the "power" used in turning for pewter work was a stout man—at the South, a negro. March 8, 1818, from Augusta, Ga., he says "Adna Rowe arrived here last week, only 23 days, from New York, by land, in a two-horse wagon." Samuel Danforth and his son John, are spoken of as being "in Augusta, the former drinking too freely." "Griswold wants to engage Danforth for the next winter," and the latter thinks he "can make as much as \$5 a month, clear of all expense." "Peddlers, who take out nothing but pewter and tin, clear \$60 to \$70 a month." Nov. 6, 1818, Danforth has just arrived at Savannah, eleven days from New London and home, up river, to Augusta. "If you see Justus Robbins, tell him onions are 12½ cts. at this time [per bunch]: potatoes, 62½ cts. per bushel; cheese 12½; butter, a good price." This was inducement to Robbins to send out a cargo from Rocky Hill. Dec. 19, 1819, from Augusta again, in regard to peddling, "Those who get licenses for the year to come will have to pay for each county \$600." This evidently was some new legislation. "The widow Holmes' son called to see me; he tells me he gets \$3 to \$4 a day, caulking boats. Isaac Norton and a Mr. Hooker work in the shop with me." March, 1820, "Mr. Dimock

(prob. from Stepney) calls to see me most every week." May 7, 1820, "the peddlers are all leaving us, and the tinnerns from the other shops have all gone home." Nov. 10, 1820, Mr. D. is at Saybrook, bound South again, "We go to sea as soon as the tide serves us [to get over the bar] which will be about 11 o'clock this day." Nov. 19, Savannah, "arrived here last Thursday night, after passage of only five days from Saybrook; there were 34 passengers, most of them ladies, nearly all sea-sick all the way. I found Mr. Geo. Bradford here, who is to start for Augusta in the next stage." Dec. 3, 1820, Augusta, "if you see Thomas D. Boardman, inform him that Giles Griswold has had his note protested at the bank and has put everything out of his hands." These extracts from the letters passing between these young Rocky Hill men of that day, and their home friends, show something of their lives and occupations, and illustrate the fact that skilled New England workmen in many crafts were in demand all over the Southern States; and that this neighborhood sent its share to supply the want.

DANFORTH, THOMAS.—Among the principal business men of Stepney, in the last quarter of the last century, was Thomas Danforth, who came here from Midd., in 1778, and had a store on the N.E. corner of "the Centre." He continued in trade here until 1818, either himself or by his son Thomas, Jr., and died in 1840, aged 84 years. His old accounts (in possession of Misses E. W. and S. G. Williams) show that he dealt in almost every conceivable article of hardware then known, besides most kinds of goods and wares then usually found in country stores. He also manufactured all sorts of tin, brittania, pewter and japanned goods, as well as those of copper, brass and lead. He had a brother in Hartford, and another in Midd., both engaged in the same line of manufacturing and trading; and Rocky Hill was a sort of "half-way house" for the three. He sent out many peddlars with his goods and his accounts show a large retail business with people from Weth., Newington, Berlin, New Britain, Farmington, Glastonbury, Marlborough, Colchester, and other towns. He also had a pewtering and japanning shop in Philadelphia, where he frequently spent his winters. From 1794 for some years on, his son-in-law, Richard Williams, was in business with him. The stamp of T. D. on goods made by Danforth was a guarantee of good reliable manufacture at all points wherever they were found. It is worth noting, as showing the housekeeping customs of the 1800 period, that Mr. D's. accounts contain frequent sales of *sand* to the village people. This was for sanding the floors of the family sitting and other rooms. Carpets were not then in general use, and fine, white, imported sand was used to sprinkle over the floors, as it took up

all sorts of dirt and dust. It was left on the floor for some days, then swept out and a new sprinkling put on. It was especially thus used in bar-rooms, stores, barber-shops, etc. This use of sand continued until within the remembrance of some now living—indeed, to a limited extent, down to as late as 1840. A frequent charge in Mr. D.'s books was for "horse and chaise." The "chaise" was a two-wheeled vehicle, sometimes with a top, and generally hung on leather springs. It was what we should now call a *sulky*, and was intended for one person only.

The last of the Danforth family left Ry-Hill about 1870. Mr. D. was descended from Rev. Nicholas Danforth, who emigrated to Cambridge, N. E., from Suffolk, Eng., 1634. The following item from one of T. D.'s letters, (1838) show that he recognized the difference between a "church" and a "meeting house"; viz. "Glastonbury has lately built two Presbyterian meeting-houses, an Episcopal church and a Methodist. They make a very fine appearance from our hill."

Among those who learned the trade of Mr. Danforth was Sherman Boardman of Hartford; and the old and well known brittania firm of Boardman & Hart of New York and Hartford was a direct outcome of the old Rocky Hill shop. Lucius Hart was a Rocky Hill boy.

To Pres. Dwight of Yale College we owe a view of this town as it appeared in 1796.

"Stepney," he says, "is a parish of Weth. lying on a collection of hills, which are a continuation of the Middletown range; and at the point where it crosses the River. These hills are handsome and very fertile. One of these eminences, *Rocky Hill*, has given its name to the parish so generally, that few persons in the State have ever heard of the name Stepney. On the Northern side of this hill is a magnificent view over the Connecticut Valley, about 50 miles in length and 20 in breadth. Immediately below, lies the beautiful town of Weth., with its intervals on the East, and finely sloping hills on the West. Between these intervals, and those of Glastonbury, winds the Conn. River. Still further East is the town of Glastonbury itself. On the North is the City of Hartford, and the undulating country which lies westward of it. The Lyme range limits the view on the East, and that of Mt. Tom on the West; and on the North, at the distance of 42 miles, it is bounded by the mountains Tom and Holyoke.

This parish is a rich agricultural country, and carries on a considerable commerce. Its Landing is also the seat of almost all the trade of Wethersfield. The people are prosperous: the houses generally very good; the church, a new building, is handsome, and everything which

meets the eye wears the appearance of industry and prosperity. The country is extremely pleasant and settled almost in the form of a village."

The Ferry.—From the earliest time of settlement, there was probably considerable ferrying between Rocky Hill Landing and South Glastonbury. In 1650, the Town of Wethersfield voted to lay out a road on the West side of the River, and, also, a road to Nayaug Farms, directly opposite on the East side of the River, and established a landing at the foot of the hill. It is quite likely, that, before 1700, the Town had conceded to some one the right to ferry and take tolls. In 1724, the Gen. Assembly, "granted liberty" to Jonathan Smith to run a ferry at this point. He was presumably the son of Joseph Smith to whom the Town, 52 years before, had "set out" 20 acres of land directly behind and north of the ferry and the Ship Yard Reservation—see *The Landing*. Unless Joseph Smith had died before this date (1724) it is quite presumable that he, or perhaps he and his son Jonathan, Smith had been running the ferry here before, without special license: but it would be in accord with the way of managing such matters at that early period, of the Colony, that this grant by the General Court to Jonathan was a confirmation of a concession made at this time, to his father, Joseph. The General Court, at this time fixed the rate of tolls—at "fourpence" (6¼ cts.) for each man, horse and load; and twopence for each person on horseback, and prohibited the taking of any higher rate. In 1728, Jonathan Smith, as stated in the records of the Gen. Court, having become old and unable to do the work, the ferry-right was continued to his son Nathan—who, dying in 1734, Hezekiah Grimes was given the right to continue the ferry, at the pleasure of the Assembly. It will be noticed that the Assembly did not establish, in any party, an ownership franchise in this ferry privilege; but simply gave the right to continue the ferry, at the pleasure of the General Assembly retaining its power to confer the same right upon other parties, when it chose to do so. But, so far as we can learn the operation of the ferry continued in the Grimes family for many years, undisturbed and a *prior* ownership of the privilege was assumed by the parties running it. This assumed ownership of the privilege finally became subject to sale and transfer, along with the boats, oars, etc., used in the service. Hez. Grimes died in 1749, and after his death, his widow, Abigail (daughter of Jonathan) Smith and sister of Nathan, probably had charge of the ferry, and it is likely that he, or his son John operated it; and in the distribution of his estate, the ferry was set out to John's heir—a daugh-

ter who married Elizur Goodrich, who, in turn, probably ran the ferry. His daughter Martha (or Patty) granddaughter of John and great granddaughter of Iiez. Smith married Chester Williams and Williams ran the ferry on his wife's right—probably along with his brother-in-law Andrew (son of Elizur) Goodrich. Andrew, at this time resided in "the old store" in the northwest corner of the present Collins property. Patty Williams (*nee* Goodrich) became a widow and married Geo. Risley and then he attended the ferry early in the present century. Samuel Wheat and son owned and operated it from about 1810. It was under a double ownership for a long time, commencing, it is likely, with Andrew Goodrich and Mrs. Chester Williams. Wheat and Risley were in the ferry together. Risley fell from the boat and was drowned about 1818, and a year or so later, Wheat left here and leased the ferry to others.

At one time, Capt. Webb (father of Benj. G.) owned a part of it; William and Levi Goodrich were owners or operators at one time; Elisha Callender and Benj. Archer, also; Capt. Jason Goodrich came in possession in whole or in part, and in 1849, put in use a decked boat, with tread-wheel horse power. Levi Boardman, Anson Tryon, Joseph Hale, Eleazar Holmes, Robert Hollister, Henry A. White, Wait Warner, Chas. G. Beamont, L. M. Beamont, Wm. R. Bulkeley, Halsy Jagger, Warren Taylor, Wm. H. Webb, James L. Pratt and others from time to time done to 1864, owned, or ostensibly owned and operated this ferry. About 1865, it went into the hands of Ed. Boynton, who, thinking to do better at some other place, abandoned the privilege and took the boat away with him. It was then supposed that by this abandonment of the charter (for it was taken for granted that a charter existed) the privilege had been forfeited. By a general statute, passed early in this century, or before the abandonment of the privilege, the keeping of the ferry in operation was imposed upon the towns of Rocky Hill and Glastonbury. A flat boat was put on by the selectmen of these towns and run for a time, at a loss to the towns. Then the towns made, in 1866, a contract with Lyman Williams to put on a steam ferry-boat and run it for 10 years, he receiving all the tolls, and a bonus of \$1,000 from the towns. In 1876, a new lease was made to the same party and Martin F. Hollister for another 10 years, they taking the tolls, only. The grantees built a new boat, *The Centennial*; and at the expiration of the lease in 1886, a new one was made for 10 years, with Martin F. Hollister, he agreeing to pay the towns \$40 per year for the use of the privilege. In 1887, he petitioned the Assembly for a new charter, seeking to take from the towns their

right and property in the privilege, but his petition was rejected; and he carried the case to the Supreme Court, which held that Boynton's abandonment of the ferry left the privilege in the hands of the towns. Hollister had built a new boat *The Hollister* in spring of 1888; but, in 1893, threw up the right, which was no longer his, and the ferry has since been cared for by the two towns. As before stated in our remarks about The Landing, there is attached to this ferry privilege a strip of land 25 feet in width, from road to river, next south of the Roderick Grimes' store which was set to the heirs of John Grimes in 1792, in the division of the estate of Abigail, widow of the Hez. Grimes to whom the General Court granted in 1734, the privilege and which was "for the use of the ferry." During the hundred years or more from the death of Hez. Grimes, in 1749, it was a popular impression that there was no legal restraint against any party who chose to ferry passengers across the river, and accept pay for so doing. This claim was based, perhaps, on the supposition that the privilege granted 1734, lapsed with death of Hez. Grimes; perhaps, on the ground that an *exclusive* privilege was never granted, and that other parties were never barred. Certainly, the privilege was something less than a *charter* and never conferred the exclusive right that a charter would have done; and the right of other parties to ferry, if they choose, is still not quite settled against them. The matter presents several points of dispute, which may ultimately have to be settled in Court.

The tolls, as before stated, in 1724, were 6*d.* for man, horse and team and probably continued at this figure for some time. But, for some years previous to 1864, the 6½ cents had been raised to 8 cents, and, after steam was introduced, to 10 cents for man, horse and wagon, with 5 cents for each extra passenger, or single passenger—other tolls in proportion. It has been the custom to take 25 cents toll for horse or two persons both ways, and in times of high water 50 cents has been taken. An extra charge is always made for Sunday crossing.

The money value of the ferry privilege has varied from time to time. At first, of course, only small boats were used, and for foot passengers only. But, very soon after 1650, there must have been some crossing by teams and then flatboats came into use. These, at first, were propelled by oars or sweeps; then sails were added and these combined methods were in use up to 1849. It is a fair presumption that it paid for the work done. After this time and for several years the privilege, with the boat and horses, were considered as worth nearly, or quite \$3,000. Mr. Wm. R. Bulkeley sold his half of it, about 1882,

for \$1,300, which was about the ruling price. The suspension of Pratt's ferry at North Glastonbury before this period and of the ferry at Wethersfield village earlier, and also the ferry at Hartford, had made this privilege more valuable; but, the opening of the new Willow Brook ferry in East Hartford (Colt's ferry) seriously tapped the business at this place and its income and sale value decreased. Mr. Wait Warner paid \$800 for a half of it, a few years later, and at a still later time it sold for less; and in '64 it would seem that it was not thought worth holding on to. But subsequently, the Colt's ferry being discontinued, the property improved and the parties who got \$1,000 bonus made a good thing of it.

LOCAL NAMES IN ROCKY HILL.—*Long Hill*, that portion of the road, *only*, from below Goffe's Bridge to where Mrs. Thomas Warner, now lives, formerly the Zebulon Robbins' property. The hill itself was first known as Rocky Hill; after Shipman's Hotel was built, it became Shipman's Hill; as a permanent name it *should be* called IRON-STONE HILL.

Dividend (in old records "Divident") is the name attached to that part of the road between the Cemetery and the Bulkeley Mill site; to the woods on the east side of that road, to the plain below, and east to the river; to the brook, to the mill site, to the house and dam and to the small meadows below the brook; and east of the railroad and to the sawmill site. The Town of Wethersfield reserved, or rather, in granting concessions for public use, did not give away, a strip of land 20 rods wide, from Cole's Hill on the east side of the Burying Ground, to the Bulkeley "corne-mill." This reservation, except a narrow strip for roadway, was (according to tradition) divided among the adjoining proprietors, and some of it fenced in as lots—hence, *Dividend*. The east side of the Burying Ground, as it now is, was in this reservation. In the woods below, for a not very wide strip, the towns people have always regarded it as legitimate for whoever chose, to cut off the growth of saplings.

Drum Hill is the rise on the turnpike below the small sand bank and the Hosea Bulkely place, in the South District. It is so called from very early times, because of a distinctly recognizable drum-like noise made by teams driving over it, as if it was hollow below the surface.

Tryon's Landing, so called, was at the river end of the road through the woods from the Dividend road over the hill, south of Hog Brook. There was a wharf at this point where vessels sometimes laid up. Why called thus, we do not know. There is a "Tryon Town" on the

east side of the river below. The people at Tryon's Town *landed* at Rocky Hill, coming up and over in boats; and they, perhaps, made a landing at the place indicated, and walked up the rest of the way. The wharf may have been Tryon's property. The grove in a natural hollow and amphitheatre; at this point, was a splendid picnic ground. Sunday school gatherings, general town-picnics, fish-fires, clam-bakes, etc., were held here all through the last 150 years up to 1871; but, the building up of the road, making a high embankment and cutting it off from the river, finally spoiled it for its old uses. Besides this interference, we have come to think that gatherings of this sort are rather tame, unless we can go off *out of town*, for them.

The Plains is the name of that tract of land lying between Dividend Brook, where it crosses the road west of the turnpike, over the hill from F. Griswold's cider mill, and south of the upper part of that brook extending west to some 20 rods west of the "Shunpike," and south to the swamp and woods, through which runs Peat Swamp Brook, about along the south line of the town. Between these bounds is a large tract of light land. About the middle of the road and reaching to the swamp south is what is known as the *Peat Farm*, the south side of which goes into the swamp. Where the brook comes through is a large peat bog which has been worked, from time to time, within the past 75 years, or more. There has been quite as much money put into this bog, as has been taken out, but considerable of the deposit has gone on to the Peat Farm. This plain has also been known as Bishop's Plain; in the old records it was "Beset's" Plain, evidently a contraction of the Indian original title—Amobeset.

Peppercorn, the name of the tract of land east and south of the south school house in the woods, is said to have been applied, away back in the years, because it was such poor land that "it would not bear even peppercorn." In the "Militia Training" times of a half century ago, this was a place for the "general muster" to be held—at which were "high old times"—sometimes a sham battle, and old residents used to relate, with laugh and chuckle, the funny incidents enacted at "the Battle of Peppercorn."

East of Peppercorn is a patch of woods, in a hollow just south of the road, a famous picnic place; and where the Centennial of American Independence, in 1876, was duly celebrated by the Rocky Hillians.

Cabull Hill (Cape Bull Hill, or Cape Bull "for short") is the name applied, for many generations, to that section west from the Shunpike, after getting over the first hill and the hollow beyond.

The origin of the name is obscure. Whether from ownership by some of the ancient Bull family in the town; or from the "mooring" or calling of the cows, it is difficult to say. "He has gone out to Cape Bull for wood" is the way people would speak. Near the west end of this Cabull road, going west, is quite a deep hollow, and the hill beyond is high and very steep, so that there has never been a road up its side. This high hill, coming up to the road from the south, and projecting north with a gentle slope for nearly or quite half a mile to run before it reaches the small brook north of it, bears a strong resemblance to a "cape," projected into the sea—a resemblance so apparent as readily to suggest the name of Cape. If we conjecture some ownership of Bull at this hill, we can readily have "Bull's Cape," or "Cape Bull." See, also for *Judge Adams' theory*, pp.

Vexation.—A name, for some unknown reason, applied to a piece of land north of the Berlin road, in the West District; that is north of the hill at south end of Reservoir Street, and west of that street up to the Reservoir, partly in Rocky Hill township and partly in Wethersfield.

Pumpkin Town (or "Punkin Town") is the derisive appellation, from many years back, of the west section of the town lying on both sides of the Shunpike, which has not been at all acceptable to the residents there, as the place was regarded as a little "out"—and, of later years, it has been generally dropped. Linus Deming, born in 1804, has told me that the name antedates his memory.

Dividend Bar is a long stone pier projecting half way across the river, below the foot of the road at the old Shailor Shipyard, and north of the mouth of Dividend Brook.

Below the Dividend Brook was an old shad fishing place, known as *Hard Bargain*; perhaps, because some one fishing the privilege, felt he had made but a hard bargain of it.

Three-fourths of a mile above Shailor's shipyard was "Tryon's Landing," before spoken of, and a little ways above that, *Cold Spring*, originally a fine spring and resort for clamcakes, etc.; but spoiled by the building of the railroad. *Hog Brook* came next, then *The Landing*, proper. *The Water-side* was the general way of speaking—the hill in the shipyard Reservation was the "Water-side hill."

The Mustard Bowl.—Up over the hill to the southwest of the Butler Grist Mill, and bounded south on Cromwell town line, is a tract of hollow, of several acres—known from "away back," as the "Mustard Bowl." The hollow has no outlet; the land is light and dry, the

rainfall is absorbed by the soil. The "bowl" is symmetrical in shape and was, years ago, a little famous as producing 40 bushels of wheat to the acre. But this was when the land was new, its fertility was about exhausted some years ago.

Shad Fishing.—In the earlier days of the shad fishing business, (doubtless carried on at the fishing places spoken of to some extent from the first settlement about The Landing), the catch was simply for home consumption, fresh and salted. But as soon as there began to be any carrying trade, out of the river, of salt-fish, the packing of shad became a business here, as at other places on the river. Connecticut river shad very early had a reputation of superiority. To preserve this, as also to prevent deception in the packing, the General Court decreed that:

"All pickeled shad . . . intended for market shall be split and well cleaned and pickled in a strong brine, at least fifteen days before they are put up for market. Each barrel shall contain two hundred weight, and each half barrel one hundred weight, . . . and shad so put up shall be of three qualities: the first of which shall be denominated shad No. 1, and shall consist wholly of shad well saved, free from rust or any defect, with the head and tail cut off and the back bone taken out; and each barrel shall contain no more than seventy-two shad; half barrels no more than thirty-six shad each." The second quality were to be prepared in like manner, with eighty-two to the barrel and forty-one to the half. No. 3 were to have the *heads* taken off, but there was no provision as to the tails or the back bone. And all were to be inspected by a man appointed for the business, and by him numbered as to quality, and stamped.

Besides the large amount of shad disposed of in this way, it continued to be a custom all down the years till as late as 1850, for the farmers to come in to the fish-places, from the back towns, and take away in quantities to suit, a great many fish fresh from the river, to pickle and salt for their own consumption, and also to peddle out in neighboring towns. The growth of Hartford made a market for fresh shad; and in course of time the New York market began to demand all there were to spare from home consumption. The catch has steadily decreased from year to year; and shad fishing at the places formerly used here has been abandoned, though there is still some gilling done. Formerly, and down to say fifty years ago, shad were caught in large numbers, during high water in May, along under the bank by Beaver brook bridge, and in the neighborhood. They strayed out of the river channel. Roger Warner's family had a fishing place at the end of their lot. Wait and

Walter caught 999 one season at the point mentioned. When the water subsided, shad were often left in the small pools or pond holes, having been shut in and held, so as to be easily caught.

Fishing Places.—The *Hard Bargain* shad-fishing place has been already spoken of. There were several others—such as “Schangs,” a little above *The Landing*—where it was said, only small shad were ever caught, which were called “schangs”—probably an Indian name. At the mouth of Goffe’s Brook was another fishing place, called *Five Nations*; a little further up, was the *Bush* fishing place, probably so named because of the willow bushes there; and still further north was *The Point* privilege—the extreme eastern end of the meadow that crowds the River close over to the hill on the Glastonbury side. Near this is what is known as *Log Bar*, a hindrance to river navigation for 150 years back—and which from early times kept many bottoms from getting above it—so that they had to stop and “lighter” their cargoes to smaller vessels, or discharge cargoes entirely into scows, which carried them on to Hartford—as did the steamboats in some seasons, during their use in the past 30 years.

Above *The Landing*, all the way up the River, as far as it can be seen from that point, the stream, since the first coming of the whites, has been persistently working eastward, thus adding acre upon acre to the Rocky Hill meadows, at this lower side. Above “the Point” the erosion is and has been, for a long time past, on the west side—so that there is a yearly loss. When Capt. Holmes, in 1633 sailed up the Conn. past where Ry-Hill docks now are, he kept due north for a considerable distance, right up to where is a large expanse of excellent meadow, and rounded “the Point” from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile west of the present River channel.

Wharves.—The Town of Wethersfield, in 1764, established a landing at Rocky Hill, for a *ferry*—on the present River front of the Ship-Yard Reservation. The change of the river-course began gradually to make this landing place less desirable for the purpose than the shore just below, which was part of the Boardman grant. When wharves were first made on this B. grant, it is impossible to say; but they came in with the opening and progress of commercial business. The northernmost of the present partially existing structures covers that part of the Boardman’s grant which, before 1750, was owned and used by Oliver Pomeroy, as a place of trade, and after him by Joseph Bulkeley. The next wharf south is the river front of the 25 feet which was, in 1772, distributed to the heirs of John Grimes for the use of the ferry; and

was likely, in some way, connected with an old store that stood on the corner next south to this 25 ft. strip; also with the land next north to Alex. Grimes. What is now called the "Steamboat dock," or wharf, is a part of the front of Hannah Clark's land, from her father, Jonathan Smith.

I have supposed that an old wharf where the present Steamboat Wharf now is, was anciently the property of Capt. John Webb, and that he lived in front of it, where David Webb once lived—but of this I am not certain. The *middle* wharf, on the River end of the 25 feet set to the John Grimes heirs, has remained in that family all down the years. The *north*, or Pomeroy wharf, about 1815 and for some years afterwards, belonged to Capt. Wm. Webb and was, partly at least, attached to the Justus Bulkeley, or Isaac Goodrich store—which building, Capt. Webb also owned. These wharves have not always belonged to the persons owning the stores back of them; and have often changed hands.

Besides what is known as the "steamboat wharf" farthest north there are the remains of one in the rear of the Roderick Grimes store.

The River at The Landing has always been a fine place for wharves, at a comparatively small expense for construction, as deep water came in near the edge; and in the older period they were kept in good condition.

These wharves, originally built at the beginning of Ry-Hill's commercial history, were rebuilt or added to as occasion required. After the introduction of steam on the River, the out-freighting business was gradually transferred to "propellers," or the regular "steamboat;" though sailing craft still continued to take in cargoes of produce at the docks up to about 1870. Incoming freight met with the same change; steamboats (both up and down the River) made landings here regularly, until the opening of the railroad, since which they have been mostly discontinued, except that the smaller boats have landed, "on signal." During low water, the New York boats, in several years, from 1870, have docked here for several weeks at a time, transferring freight and passengers to Hartford, in the smaller boats.

In 1855, the Steamboat Wharf, now owned by H. H. Grant, being badly out of repair, a stock company was organized for its rehabilitation. The stockholders were James T. Pratt, Wm. Neff, Justus Candee, Daniel A. Mills, Lewis F. Wright, *et alios*; Wm. Neff, *Pres.*, and Justus Candee, Wharfinger. The tolls collected proved to be inadequate to keeping it up; and the raised wooden dock was allowed to go to pieces. S. & E. S. Belden bought the stock and connected the wharf property

with the coal yard of the old foundry; from them it was transferred to H. H. Grant. Its principal use now is for unloading of coal for village consumption, and of coal and pig iron for the foundry.

The Post Office.—This was first established here in 1802, ISAIAH BUTLER, Post Master. Capt. ELI GOODRICH kept it for many years from about 1812, in his house, west of the Burying ground, probably where the hotel now is. Before the opening of the turnpike (at which time it is likely that the mails began to be carried through Ry-Hill by stage) the service was performed by carriers on horseback, three times a week, each way. As there was much business that required correspondence, it is probable that letters were sent to and from Stepney much earlier, than the appointment of a postmaster there—probably largely by private hands, and vessels sailing to different domestic ports. JAMES ROBBINS is mentioned as P. M. in the *Conn. Register*, and kept the P. O. for a while at the Shipman Hotel. Capt. ARCHIBALD ROBBINS kept it, first at the Bradford Store, then at The Landing, and then at Shipman's hotel. Connected with his postmastership is a story that he bought a lottery ticket for some small sum and, only a few days before the drawing he sold it to Capt. Austin Robbins, who drew \$2000 on it—much to the chagrin of Capt. Archibald, who had to stand a good deal of chaffing from his friends. This “windfall” to Capt. Austin, however, lasted him a good while, for his twice-a-day walks to The Landing, to take his 11 o'clock and 4 o'clock dram, an exercise in which he religiously persevered, during almost his whole adult life. So that, Capt. Archibald may, after all, have got back nearly all the price of the ticket. Capt. Archibald Robbins was Post Master during the Jackson, Van Buren, Harrison and Tyler administrations. EBENEZER GOODALL held the office at his house, next north of the tavern, and later on the Danforth corner. During Polk's administration, HENRY WEBB, held the office, with the office at his house, now the Standish place. Under the Taylor and Fillmore administrations, HENRY WHITMORE was postmaster—with the office in a small building opposite the old school house, on the site of an old smithy of the elder Wm. Goodrich. Mr. W. was also a P. M. in North Carolina for 19 years. Under Pres. Pierce, the office went again to HENRY WEBB, who kept it for several years in the basement of the Standish house, on the Hartford road. Mr. Webb was during the Buchanan administration, replaced by A. G. BAKER, who held it about half way through the Johnson administration, when he was succeeded by WM. H. WEBB, who kept the office in the store opposite the Congregational church. At the beginning of the Grant administration, HENRY J. SMITH was appointed—his service ended by his death in

July, 1881—the office being in the store in the old George Robbins house. It then passed to HENRY R. TAYLOR, in the new store; and, at his death to MARTIN J. GRISWOLD.

The Saybrook Turnpike, chartered in 1802, commenced 3 or 4 rods south of Goffe's Brook, at the VI mile stone from Hartford. The charter prescribed that it should begin at the south side of said Brook near the six-mile Stone; but the Company never took care of the road north of that point. Except for about a quarter of a mile (from the Methodist Church to the Congregational Church) and the cut south of the Burying ground through Cole's Hill, this turnpike was the old road from Hartford to Middletown. Its franchise was abandoned in 1877, and the road reverted to the town. Up to this time, a toll-gate was maintained at the top of the small rise near the Cromwell line. People, going to and from the mill, and those who did not come over a fixed distance, and physicians on professional business (was a doctor ever known to be on the road near a toll-gate, *except* on professional business ?) were exempt from paying.

The substantial arched stone bridge over Hog Brook, below Cole's Hill, was built (on the site of an older one) by this Turnpike Co., in 1822—the only one in the town which they had to maintain. The Goffe's Brook Bridge has always been a town-charge, since it was set off to Ry-H. in the separation from Wethersfield. A wooden bridge on stone abutments was maintained here, by occasional replacements, up to 1885, when an iron bridge was put in at a cost of \$500.

From the opening of this turnpike, in 1802 or '03, until Middletown got its mail by rail, say 1858, a line of mail stages ran through Ry-H. daily, and until the building of the Valley R. R., in 1871, the line was kept up hence to Hartford and back, to maintain the mail. The passenger traffic was small in summer—more people went to Hartford by boat than by stage, and a still greater number by private conveyances. Before the opening of this turnpike and the introduction of stages, the mails were carried by horseback—three times a week, each way—and it does not appear that, in these early days there was any regular post office at Rocky Hill—the first postmaster known of being after the opening of the turnpike.

The Shunpike—a name which came into use after the opening of the turnpike, was applied to the road running southwest from the brook crossing at Adams' Mills, in South Wethersfield, past the Hang Dog farm and on to the Methodist church in the West District, thence south by the Nehemiah Stevens place, at the west side of Amobeset Plains and

so into Cromwell. By taking this road, travelers between Hartford and Middletown avoided the pike and the toll-gate—hence *Shunpike*.

Railroad.—The project of a railroad from Hartford to Saybrook, was a topic of general discussion in the stores at The Landing many years before it was built. In 1854 or '55, a preliminary survey was made, and the citizens held a meeting in the Academy Hall, to hear the engineer's report and discuss it. The matter dropped, however, until it was revived in 1870. James C. Walkley, of Haddam, president of the Charter Oak Life Insurance Co., was the chief mover in the project, which finally wrecked his fortune. The road was constructed in 1870-71, and opened in August of the latter year, and the Town of Rocky Hill bonded itself for \$21,000, to subscribe for the stock of the road. Charles T. Hillyer bought the Town bonds, at a discount of 5 per cent.; these bonds were to run 20 years at $6\frac{1}{2}$ per ct. semi-annual interest, and are still being carried. Individuals also subscribed for small amounts of stock, some paying in full and some only the first installment of 5 per ct.—these latter were "on the inside". The original subscriptions (both of Towns and individuals) were utterly sunk, as also were the funds of the second-mortgage bondholders. The road passed to the first-mortgage bondholders, who organized a new company. The line is now controlled by the Consolidated roads.

With a view of getting a new passenger station built on the west side of the tracks, the town, in 1875, bought a lot of Mrs. Margaret Jagger (between East end of Ferry and Prospect Sts.) at a cost of \$600 or more, and conveyed it to the R. R. company—but, its building was delayed, as usual in such cases, until 1892.

The *Iron Bridge at Goffe's Brook*, erected, 1885, at a cost of \$500, collapsed in Nov., 1887, under the weight of a drove of cattle, with some damage to the latter, and the narrow escape of a boy driver; and was replaced by the same Company, without charge to the Town.

The First Stove in Town.—The first cooking-stove set up in the town was owned by Alpheus Goodrich, who occupied an ancient dwelling on the site where Wm. Grimes now dwells. It was of the big "tin plate" pattern, and was a great curiosity for those days, and probably there was not a family within 3 miles of that stove, but some member of it had not called to see it in operation. This was about 1815. There were stoves in use before this, but all of the open Franklin pattern. A story is told in connection with this stove, of a resident of the town who had passed the winter in the South. He returned in March and called to see the stove. Mr. Goodrich went down cellar for a pitcher of cider, and handing the mug to the visitor, remarked "I put 22 barrels

of cider into the cellar, last fall. This is the last of it. Every drop has been brought up out of the cellar in that 2-quart mug!" Allowing 32 gallons to the barrel there would have been 704 gallons, or 1408 trips down to the cellar!

NOTES OF SOME ROCKY HILL IMPROVEMENTS.

Liberty Pole.—At the Commencement of the Civil War, 1861, by a general subscription, a liberty-pole was erected on the point of land south of the Congregational Church; and a very large American flag—the largest in the State, 40 by 30 feet, was procured for it. The pole became rickety and was taken down about a dozen years later, the flag still remains in evidence on many occasions, in draping the Congregational Church and Conference Room.

Plank-walk.—About 1874, one was built from foot of Ferry St., to the Centre Corners, of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft width. It has been allowed to go to ruin, and portions only remain.

In 1882, a fairly good gravel walk was made from the corner of Chester B. Goodrich, S., to the Congregational Church, by the personal labor of the people of the neighborhood.

Street Lamps.—About 1875, a few street lamps were put up in the village—but they shine no more athwart the belated traveller's path.

Church Fence.—The neatly turned-post fence around the Meeting-house yard, was due originally to the generosity and superintendence of Mrs. Fanny Grimes Camp, in 1887—Cost \$250.

The above items indicate that "at times" the good people of Rocky Hill wake up to a glimmering idea of what might be done to add to the convenience and beauty of their (naturally) lovely village.

In conclusion, it may be truly said that a view of this place, looking westward from the River, will satisfy the observer that here is one of the most agreeably picturesque villages in New England; and one that naturally affords opportunity for development to a much more densely populated community. It is also, occasionally, entitled to be called the head of sloop navigation of the River upon which it is so attractively situate.

MILLS—The Dividend Grist Mill.—On what is known as Dividend Brook, near the southeast corner of the town, the early settlers found a fine natural waterfall, over and through a ledge of rocks—which had doubtless been a favorite resort of the Indians, for trapping fish—and which offered a good site for a mill. In June, 1661, only some 25 years after the first coming to Wethersfield village, the Town made a con-

cession to Gov. John Winthrop of 140 acres of land about this water privilege, conditional on his erecting a "corne-mill" there. As he failed to fulfill this condition, he in 1668 released the property to the Town, which, some years later, (Feb., 1677) granted the same, under the same conditions to Rev. Gershom Bulkeley, then minister at Wethersfield, and he erected the mill the next year. The concession prescribed not only the building of a mill on that site, but that it should be maintained in perpetuity, the failure to so maintain it, vitiating the grant. And under this obligation the mill-privilege has always been held; and, though there have been brief periods when milling was suspended, it has always been sufficient to call the attention of the owners to this original condition of the grant in order to secure a resumption of active operations. After Mr. Bulkeley had built the mill, the Town gave him a further grant of 150 acres, making 290 in all. I have always supposed that these two grants included the land from the River to as far west as the road to Middletown (which road afterward became the turnpike); but the Map of 1721 evidences that his land extended to the East from the Middletown road far enough to take in the mill-site, but did not go to the River. East of the northeasterly end of Mr. Bulkeley's grant, and going to the River, was a large acreage put down as "Capt. Goodrich's living": it probably included the flat known to us as Dividend Plain. South of this was a tier of lots running from the River west to the base of the hill that is south of the mill, which tier included the Dividend Meadow. North of "Capt. Goodrich's living," on the River's side and north of Mr. Bulkeley's land and on the west end coming up to the Middletown road, evidently including what we call Dividend Woods, on both sides of the road, and also including the "Peppercorn" region up to the South School house, was, in 1716, "common land". The division of this tract of common land sometime after 1716 (probably about 1750) was what, we suppose, gave to all the region from the tops of the hills south of Hog Brook, and of the Middletown line, the name of "Dividend," or Divident.

The original mill-dam was built a little further upstream than the present one: when the second one was built, cannot now be ascertained, but the present dam was rebuilt about 1875, generally strengthened and made higher, so as to flood additional land.

Before his death Mr. Bulkeley had conveyed the mill and some of the land about it to his son Edward. A clause in his will would indicate that the mill belonged to the son at the time of his father's death. Edward, who died in 1748, willed it to his sons Peter, Gershom and Jonathan, to be used by each "by turns, during their lives, and then to go to the

"longest lived" of the three. It was thus used by the brothers, and finally remained in the possession of Gershom, after some dispute as to the meaning to be placed upon the words "longest lived." From Gershom it passed to his son Hosea, who, about 1812, built a new mill and dam in the place of the old ones, which had already been some years out of repair. Then, another Gershom (son of Hosea) came into the ownership, or operated it under his father. The property passed out of the Bulkeley family about 1830, after a tenure of 150 years and of five generations.¹

After this, the mill was used for a short time by a Mr. Russell, of Middletown, for the manufacture of axes. It then passed to Israel Williams, Wm. Butler and others; but was not much utilized by them. Then it passed to Leonard R. Wells and Alfred Wilcox, who manufactured chisels, plantation hoes, and other edged tools for many years, until the death of Mr. Wilcox, due to his being caught and whirled over a shafting in the mill. Here was first made, in quantity, the "Never-slip" horseshoe (now in the hands of a Boston concern) which had removable corks invented by Joseph Jorey, an Englishman and blacksmith, who had been running a shop at Griswoldville, and about 1865, moved into the Rocky Hill west district. Not long after he sold out his right in the invention, getting for it, as was understood, about \$10,000; he died not many years after, and was buried in the Rocky Hill cemetery. After one or two other changes, Mr. C. E. Billings (of the Billings & Spencer Co.,) of Hartford, with others, bought the property and a new building was put up in place of the old one—which is mainly used for drop-forgings. In 1884, Mr. B. and Geo. D. Edwards erected a new brick building on the hill, south of the dam, the machinery in which is operated by a long belt from the mill in the hollow. The brick building is used for the making of manufacturers' tools. Grain grinding is done in a small building in the hollow.

An old account-book, still extant, of the Jonathan Bulkeley above referred to, commencing in 1758, contains numerous charges for hard bread and crackers sold to divers parties and carted to The Landing; evidencing that a *bakery* was connected with the mill at this period or a

¹ This controversy, as to whether the words used in Edward Bulkley, will. viz.: "longest lived" were to be taken to mean the son who lived *last*, or the one who lived the *most years*, arose between the heirs of Gershom and Jonathan, the former born in 1714, the latter in 1718. The death of neither of these is known. To have started the controversy, it was necessary that Jonathan should have outlived Gershom; but it is to be supposed that when he died he was not as old as Gershom was when he died; and so it was held the word "longest-lived" meant he who lived the *most years*—since Gershom's heirs held the will.

little later. This hard bread and crackers were made mainly for the supply of vessels sailing hence from the West Indies and elsewhere. Among other purchasers we find the name of Silas Deane, of Wethersfield, afterwards one of the Commissioners to France, from the Congress of the United Colonies, during the American Revolution.

Of the 190 acres of land originally granted to Mr. Bulkeley, there now remains as attached to the mill privilege, the lot in which is the pond and a small tract west and north of the road that runs up the hill and around into Pleasant Valley. The farm extending east of the factory building, to the River, and including the old saw-mill site, and the dam below the factory buildings—all south of the road that runs east to the River (the Dividend Bar-road) probably became connected at a later day. Judge Adams thinks that Edward Bulkeley, (who probably operated the original mill for his father (Rev. Gershom) and who resided in the near vicinity of the mill, perhaps in the home where his (Edward's) son Jonathan lived later) had a fulling-mill either here, or at the Hang Dog stream at Griswoldville; but the probability is that it was connected with the Dividend "corne mill".

Previous to the building of the Butler, Curtis & Merriam mill just east of the IX mile stone on the turnpike, nearly all the grain sent for grinding from the farmers of the East part of the present Town of Cromwell (Upper Middletown) came to this Bulkeley mill. But after the building of the Butler mill, their custom was diverted to it, strongly by the fact that, as the road ran, it was nearer to them by nearly a mile, than the older mill. Owing to this, and partly because of the division and sale to other parties of the land east of the turnpike and between it and the Dividend road (the old road by which the people from south of Drum Hill and below to Cromwell traveled from the main road east to the Bulkeley mill) was abandoned, fenced up and taken for private use. By this means, the road from over the hill, just west of the mill, became a *cul-de-sac*; so that any one wishing to get from the neighborhood of the mill to the south part of the Town on the main road, had to come north on the Dividend road and then northeast through the woods up to the present South District School house. When Butler & Sugden built the Pleasant Valley Foundry, in 1854, they made a private road to it, directly west to the turnpike—the road ending at the foundry. Three or four years later, the Town laid out a new road from this *cul-de-sac* at the Bulkeley mill, southwest past the foundry, and on in nearly the same direction, to the intersection of the road at the Wm. Butler grist-mill, and Butler & Sugden abandoned their private road. By this time the old-road exit west from the Dividend road had passed people's

remembrance, although its traces from the mill west up to within a few rods of the turnpike are still visible. The head of this old road was directly opposite the Curtis place, corner of the turnpike and Plains St. Down this road, for a hundred years or so from 1678, went the farmers of East Upper Middletown, on horseback, or in ox-cart, with their grists to the mill. It was not a mere path through the woods, but a *made* road, leveled off, the hollows filled and with a bridge over a gully beyond the first hill west of the mill. Between the time of the probable abandonment of this—and the opening of the Pleasant Valley road—a period of some 75 years—all information concerning it seems to have died out. The probability is, that by the time the mill property had passed into the hands of Gershom Bulkeley, (grandson of the original grantee) after the death of his brothers Peter and Jonathan, that the ancestral lands south of Drum Hill were in the hands of other descendants; and, as the business from the south had been tapped, and all from the north of Drum Hill went down either on the Dividend road, or through the woods southeast from the site of the South School house, to meet the Dividend road, it was no longer of much account to keep open the road that ran east and southeast from opposite the Curtis place; and as, for his private convenience, the mill could be quite as easily reached by going east from the Bulkeley residence opposite the Sandbank and then south to strike the old road in the woods, or by keeping on southeast through a hollow leading out on to the plain and the road north of the mill, Mr. Gershom and his son Hosea had a private cartpath that way—of which some evidence yet remains.

After the Mill passed out of the Bulkeley family, perhaps before, this way through the woods was also fenced up; and then—and up to about 1800—the turnpike at the South School house could be reached from the Dividend road through a hollow that was northwest from the old Freeman-Cleveland corner and came out into Peppercorn Plain. Peppercorn Plain was fenced up about 1800, since when there is a road up another hollow, still further north, that comes out on the Peppercorn road about halfway of its length, and east of the Schoolhouse. Thus the two hollows through the hill west of the Dividend road were each, in turn, made use of for a road after the original road further south had been discontinued. How people originally got on to the main road with teams, from the old Dividend “corne mill” without coming up north to the South Schoolhouse, had become a conundrum with the inhabitants born after 1800; but a survey of the ground renders it perfectly plain. For many years the road was known as the Curtis place—probably from its emerging on the main road by the Curtis place.

The Butler Grist Mill.—About 1775, Dea. Simeon Butler, Josiah Curtis and Burrage Merriam built a grist-mill on Dividend Brook, east of the turnpike, over the hill from the IX-mile (from Hartford) stone, near the south end of the Town.¹ After about 50 years of use (say 1825) Capt. William, son of Dea. Simeon Butler, came into possession of the property, and put up a new mill on the site of the old one. This was in use up to about 1870, latterly in the hands of Robert Sugden, Jr., who had come into possession of this property, as well as of the saw-mill nearby. The old grist-mill was demolished about 1880, by E. R. Silliman, at that time tenant. Part of its foundation wall still remains. For a year or two prior to 1861, Frederick R. Butler made pen-handles and did some other small jobs in wood-turning at this mill.

The Butler Sawmill.—About 1829, Capt. Wm. Butler built a saw-mill near his gristmill, at the south end of the town, under the hill, east of the turnpike, on Dividend Brook; the water being supplied by the gristmill power. This mill was in pretty active use until about 1868, when it was burned; and replaced by a new building, yet standing, but not of use and decaying. The property passed from Capt. Butler to Robert Sugden, Jr., and while in his ownership it was used by Sidney Bidwell from about 1875-1878, in the making of lumber and railroad ties, and to it was attached (later, after the gristmill had been abandoned) a small building which, also, has gone into disuse.

The Robbins Mill.—North of the road from Rocky Hill village to Griswoldville (Parsonage St.) and a little way down the stream that crosses the road before it intersects the road from the north (West St.) are the remains of an old dam, and the site of a grist-mill, which belonged to the family of Zebulon Robbins. The mill must have been built in the beginning of the 18th Century, as it was going to decay in 1800, and was abandoned about that time. It stood in the hollow, some way below the dam: its site and the track of the race-way are still visible. There are some marks of *two* race-ways at this mill-site. The place where one building stood is so far within the hollow that it could not well have been a *saw-mill*, for there could not have been a log-yard near it.

¹ Mr. Chas. Williams used to relate this anecdote about the lock on the Butler Mill, viz.: Some one had broken in and stolen from the mill, several bags of flour. To guard against a repetition of this, Dea. Simeon put a new lock on the door, very large and with a key that weighed one and a quarter pounds. On this he greatly prided himself, and showed it to his customers as a certain security against further depredations—until some one called his attention to the fact that the *door was hung on leather hinges*, which could have been readily cut with a knife!

I think there was a saw-mill a little further up. The lot is still known as the "Mill-pond Pasture." Judge Adams says "at Rocky Hill, Joshua Robbins, Jr., Eliphalet and Ebenezer Dickinson built a saw-mill on a branch of Goffe's Brook, about 1713. As there is no evidence of any other dam on a branch of Goffe's Brook in this town, than the one above mentioned, and as Mr. Ackley Williams remembered a *grist*-mill there in 1800, there may be an error as to the saw-mill; but, possibly, both grinding and sawing were done at the place.

The Belden and Dickinson Saw-Mill.—As early, probably, as 1775, Aaron Belden and Obadiah Dickenson had a saw-mill in the West District, South of the West end of New France St.: which washed away before the remembrance of Aaron's son, Ashbel (born 1798; died 1885). Mr. Ashbel thought that two mills had been washed away from the same site. This mill-dam was about a third of the way down the gorge, west of the bridge, and there are still some remains of it existing. In 1824, Ashbel Belden and his brother Leonard erected a new saw-mill a few rods west of the site of the old one, near the opening of the gorge, which was in use up to about 1850, when it was given over to decay, a process which took about 25 years—Nehemiah Stevens being at that time owner. The log-yard of the older mill (or mills) was on the south side of the brook; of the latter, on the north side. Just above the end of the pond of the older mill, and east of the road and bridge, was an earth-dam across the stream, which flooded the small meadow above it, forming a subsidiary pond or storage reservoir. Whether its making dates back to the erection of the mill itself is not known. In 1883-84 James S. Stevens rebuilt this reservoir for the making of cider by the use of water power—and it is now in use in the cider-season. Its grinding is done by a turbine wheel driven by water, and the capacity is about 240 bushels an hour, or enough for nearly 8 barrels of cider. The site of this mill was once occupied (say about 1810) by a button shop, in which a Lewis Hart and his son made pewter and later wooden buttons; but being prosecuted for an infringement of patent, gave up the business after a few years.

Goodrich Sawmill.—In the early part of the present century there was a sawmill on Dividend Brook, close by and just above where the railroad now runs. It was operated by Ephraim Goodrich, whom an old account book shows to have been here in 1797-8. As it is but a few rods below the old Bulkely gristmill, built in 1678, and on the same property; and as a sawmill must have been one of the needs of the settlers not many years later, it appears likely that this sawmill might have been about contemporaneous with the cornmill.

Rev. Gershom Bulkely's will, made May 26, 1712, has this item: "To my son Edward, I give and bequeath the clock now standing in its case in his house, as also my seal ring, the great gilt spoon, the least of my two silver porringers * * * * also, my whip-saw, tension-saw and timber-chain, being of use for his mill." The expression "of use for his mill" would indicate a *sawmill* rather than a *gristmill*, as being then a part of the Bulkely possessions. It tumbled to decay about 1825; its dam and the mill foundations yet remaining in a good state of preservation. William and Thomas Tryon operated this mill for several years—bringing timber down the river to be sawed here.

Chas. C. Butler has informed us that his father (Samuel) used to tell him of an ancient sawmill on Hog Brook in the pasture, right south of the house on South Street, where Charles and his father lived; and that he himself had taken stone out of the old raceway. The land on the north side also evidences the earth-wing of the dam.

The before-mentioned mill sites with the pond above are all now in the possession of Mr. C. E. Billings. In 1883 or '84, the dam was thoroughly rebuilt, and the pond is now used for water storage (for the benefit of the old Bulkely mill privilege below), and as a fish pond.

Fulling Mill.—On the north stream, at the end of New France Street, in the West district, and under the hill, north of the road, Horace Porter and John Deming had a fulling and carding mill, from about 1814 to 1826. It was moved and is now a dwelling on the south side of the road, at the foot of the hill east of the West District school house.

Button Mill.—About 1809, or '10, Lewis Hart and his son Eldad had a button shop on the stream south of the west end of New France Street. It stood just where the road crosses the stream and the little water power needed was obtained without a dam. This fact would indicate that the dam here was not built until Belden and Dickinson built their mill in 1824. The button mill must have stood near the present cider mill.

Brick Making, in the Colony began at a comparatively early date, since, by 1685, it elicited from the General Court, the following enactment: "This Court being informed that there is a variety of sizes used in the making of bricks, which is a great damage to those who have occasion for such ware, doe order that for the future, the length of all bricks shall be nine inches and their breadth four inches and a half, and that they be two inches and a half thick; and that the upper side of all moulds that are used to make bricks, are to be shod with

iron; and whosoever shall put to sale any brick that are not according to this order, shall forfeit 5s. per thousand, the one halfe to the informer, and the other half to the country treasury, where it is complained of." Brick making, as is evident from this order, had become a well recognized and profitable employment prior to this date; and it is by no means unlikely that previous to 1685, brick had been made within the limits of Stepney parish. Eighty-five years later the Colonial Assembly revised the regulations for this industry, by enacting, that, "For the future, all bricks made within this Colony for sale shall be full eight inches in length, four inches in breadth, and two inches thick."

Old Wethersfield records show that, as early as 1653, Matthew Williams (probably the Settler) employed Samuel Dickinson in making brick, paying him 6d. a day in wampun (small wages, unless, he was then merely a boy); and later there must have been much brick making here—probably just north of Goffe's Brook, above the bridge and just west of the road, in Stepney parish. This old Williams' yard continued to furnish much of the brick made in town during the 18th and in the early part of the 19th century. The brick used in the building of the present Walter Robbins' house, erected by Esq. John Robbins, in 1767, were probably burned here, it being the *first* house in this section made of *native* brick. The debris of the old brick kiln are to be found in the road that runs north from the old parsonage corner, past the "Old Maids' Place," so called (Brook Street), and the Robbins-Griswold house, and out by Hewitts & Matthews factory and about west of the top of the Long Hill. From 1790, to about 1820, or later, large quantities of brick were exported hence in vessels trading to the West Indies, often being taken as ballast. The brick used in the building of the North District school house, erected 1782, in the road near the north end of Rev. Burrage Merriam's home lot (now the Ryer Hotel property) were probably made near, and, just above, the Goffe Bridge, on the west side of the road in Stepney parish—in a yard then owned by Matthew Williams. In the old Williams accounts, is a charge made in 1803, against Chester Williams, of "half of 500 brick which you put into our kiln, and for which we were to have half." From 1800 to 1808, also, there are many charges of brick in varied quantities, as high even as 5,000. As the land south of Charles Butler's was a part of the original Elias Williams homestead, and later of his son John, the natural inference is that John and Chester Williams made brick along Hog Brook somewhere south of the John Williams mansion.

Stone Cutting.—A stone yard was formerly located on the turnpike about west of where the old meeting house used to stand, south of Lewis Whitmore's joiner shop, and was owned from about 1800 or a little earlier, by Seth Dickinson. From this pit came a good share of the brown stone gravestones in the Rocky Hill graveyard; also some stone sinks yet extant in town, and the underpinning and steps of the Congregational Church, which were done by Mr. D., who, in his later years became deranged.

Another stone pit north of the road at the town west of the Boardman-Holmes place, was also being worked in 1785; but the deposit was small and was worked only intermittently.

"*The Stone Pits*," so termed in the old records, I had always supposed to have been the diggings just west of the Roger Goodrich house at the top of the hill east of the gully-brook near by. But, later day explorations, show that, at some remote time, attempts were made to quarry stone at a point nearly south of the Allen A. Robbins' house, on the north side hill, and near by the old road from Sam. Williams' corner west to the Return Boardman house. Excavations, tho' not to any great extent, were evidently made there; and it may be, that, when "stone pits" are mentioned, this opening was included with the one the fourth of a mile or so further west.

Polishing Grit.—When the deposits of this *silica sand* were first opened in this town, is unknown. As early as 1800, a Middletown man had discovered its virtues and was putting it in packages and selling it for polishing brassware, harness mountings, etc.; and about 1835, it was much used at Northampton and elsewhere for moulding sand. Later, Archibald Miller sold much of it, as did Levi Smith, and later his son John, up to about 1870. The Smiths got out this sand on the west side of the turnpike, at Cole's Hill, from the high bank at that point, where it had probably been uncovered by the plowing of the previous quarter of a century. For the last twenty-five or thirty years, Albro Griswold (now dec'd) and his son Daniel C., as also Samuel Dimock, have taken large quantities from the bank on the west side of the way, just south of Hog Brook, on the Dividend road. Some years ago a stock company was formed called the *Rocky Hill Polish Company*, for mining this sand—now carried on by Samuel Dimock, one of the original stock owners. The grit is extensively used all over the U. S. by manufacturers of silverware and white-ware goods of all kinds—preparatory to plating—for which purposes it is conceded to have no superior.

Tanneries.—The first tannery in Stepney was established in the early part of the 18th century, by Ezekiel Smith, and was continued up to about 1824, by his son Levi. It was on the west side of the road, near the gully that crosses just below the Centre Corners. Merriam Williams, also, had tan vats and a bark mill in the rear of his residence on Elm Street very early in the present century. A memorandum left by him speaks of buying the machinery for a bark mill, in March, 1813, for \$53. In April, he carted the timber for, and raised the building. The following entry shows that his son Thomas bought the Kellogg place (where S. Dimock now lives) in March, 1843, and in August, bought off and moved half of the bark mill, or tan house, to that place for a barn. "Fifteen yoke of oxen drew half of my tan-house into Thomas' lot for a barn." Mr. Merriam Williams also carried on shoemaking, to a large extent for that day, in connection with his tanning business.

About 1800, or earlier, Dea. Ebenezer Goodrich, who resided where Jared G. Dimock now lives, had a tannery at that corner, for many years—and also carried on the shoemaking trade, in which he employed several workmen.

Shoemaking.—In olden times, shoes and boots were made by the village shoemaker; but, some 80 years ago their manufacture was begun, though not in factories. Shoedealers arose, who began to have stock cut out, and this was taken to his home by the shoemaker, made up and returned to the dealer—as "ready made." Sometimes the shoemaker lived in a little shop and took apprentices to learn the trade—as was the case with Mr. Eli Goodrich, who had a small shop in the rear of his house on Broad Street, next west of the corner. Excellent work was done by some of these men who labored in this way. William LeVaughn, who lived, until about 1878, in the house on South Street, opposite the John Williams farm was a capital workman in fine shoes for ladies' wear. He was also an excellent fifer, and was for many years fifer to the Putnam Phalanx, of Hartford, and accompanied them on their annual excursions.

From an old account book preserved by Mr. Charles Williams, it is learned that in 1799, Willis Williams made shoes for the people. He lived in an old house where Lewis Whitmore now lives. In 1802, Wait Goodrich was making shoes in a shop now part of the late Levi Smith's house, south of the Centre Corners. In 1786, Ephraim Williams carried on shoemaking, supposably at Dividend. In 1788, Edward Bulkely, who lived in the old house where Louis Whitmore

now lives made shoes. Samuel Holmes was a shoemaker at Rocky Hill, 1788, and Edwin Wright and Levi Boardman also in 1810.

In the corner west of the property now called the Davis Smith place, on the south side of Ferry Street, and east of Cross Street, Isaac Bull, in the early part of the century had a shoemaker's shop (a favorite resort for male gossips and retailers of town news) where he employed a number of workmen. Bull removed to Ohio, in company with Capt. Jason Robbins, and Timothy Clark, driving in their own teams, and settled near Cleveland. Capt. Archibald (son of Capt. Jason) followed his father at a later date.

Coal.—Aside from that used for blacksmithing work, very little coal was used in Rocky Hill before 1840. The foundry at the river, in 1849, had coal for its use and sold a little to those needing it. About the same time, Benj. G. Webb began bringing in small amounts for sale, having a yard on the "ship reservation" on the hillside north of the ferry way; L. M. and Charles G. Beaumont were in the business, and about 1872, S. and E. S. Belden took hold of the coal trade, using a part of the old foundry buildings for its storage. After the fire there, the present coal sheds were erected on the site of the burned buildings. Messrs. Belden sold out the business and property to H. H. Grant, along with the steamboat dock. Then the Pierce Hardware Company ran the coal business for a time, but returned it finally to Mr. Grant. Ambrose Wolcott also did something in the coal line about 1850.

Boring for Coal and Oil.—In the pastures between Brook Street and north part of West Street, in the valley of one of the branches of the south branch of Goffe's Brook, northeast of the old Zebulon Robbins mill pond, is a spot that has, at different times, attracted attention by offering suspicions of an oil, or of a coal deposit. An oily seum on the water that oozed up below the bank, finally attracted so much attention, that in 1835, the *Rocky Hill Mining Co.* was formed, in the language of the lease, to "search for and procure coal, slate, stone or other minerals." The stockholders were William Webb, Dr. Daniel Fuller, Wait Williams, Abijah Collins, Nahum Wilder, Henry Bulkeley, Archibald Robbins, Roderick Grimes and Levi Goodrich 2d. of Rocky Hill; and Robert Hunt, James Killiam, Howell T. Horton, Howell W. Brown, Oliver Brainard, Geo. Merriek, Benjamin Taylor and Samuel Taylor, mostly or all of Glastonbury; and on a paid up stock capital of \$400, the company leased 15 acres of land from Zebulon Robbins, 11 from Hannah Robbins, and 20 from Hannah Merriam, for a term of 50 years, with the privilege of another 50 years extension.

A tenth part of the net proceeds was to be paid to the owners of these lands. A couple of men from Vermont were hired to open up these "great expectations." After boring down a considerable depth, the borers struck a sulphur spring and a stream spouted 20 feet above the surface; some of the water being used, proved to be a brisk cathartic. The smell of sulphur was so strong that the family with which the operators boarded (that of Elias W. Robbins) could not well eat at the same table with them. As the boring was continued, the flow was lost. They struck and went through a vein of good coal, but it was only about one-fourth inch in thickness. The money having been expended without satisfactory results, the work was abandoned and the company dissolved. Later, some New York parties attempted to exploit the "find" again—but with no results. About 1862, William S. Butler of Rocky Hill, and a Mr. Thorpe, of N. Y., then temporarily keeping the hotel in the Capt. Wm. Webb's place, leased the old boring, with a view to making a further search, but soon abandoned it. A little reflection, based on even a slight theoretical knowledge of geology, might have assured these parties that the location was not in a coal-bearing region. A sulphur spring here, however, is quite within the geological possibilities—and sufficient search might develop something in that line worth utilizing.

Distilleries.—In January, 1811, Miss Betsy Danforth, writing to her father, then in Philadelphia, says: "Mr. Culver was here yesterday; said the still had raised rye to 8s. the bushel; it would soon be \$2."

As the town sold rye at that period (raising more than could be used at home) doubtless the farmers appreciated the still.

About 1817, a gin distillery was built south of the present coal yard, north of and close by Frog Brook, and east of the road. It belonged to Justus Bulkeley and was operated by Nahum Wilder (father of Mrs. Walter Robbins) and Alfred Bailey, for several years. Later, New England rum and cider brandy were made there. Justus Bulkeley, at that time, traded at The Landing.

The distilling of gin, in those days, was as respectable a business, as the making of maple sugar, and lots of good old New England deacons made their money by it, without ever dreaming of coming short of glory, as a consequence.

Wagon Making.—About 1835, William Neff and Edward (father of Horace R.) Merriam, built a building a little way north of the site of the old distillery (on land bought of Mrs. Graham), where, for many years, they did quite a large business in the making of carriages and sulkies—mostly for the Southern trade—as they had a

carriage repository at Wilmington, N. C. Neff sold out to Merriam and went into trade at that place for some years, returning to Rocky Hill about 1860. Mr. Merriam continued the business until his death, employing from a dozen to fifteen men in his shop for a great part of the time. He lived on the New road (where his son now resides) by the big pine tree, in the house built by James Stanley. After Mr. M.'s death, about 1845, the shop remained closed, until 1849, when the *Rocky Hill Mfg. Co.* started an iron foundry in it; adding a small house for engine and boiler. Small cast-iron goods were made there by Ambrose Wolcott, John Bulkeley, Edward F. Robbins, Lucius M. Beaumont, Justus Candee and Robert Sugden, Jr., who composed the company. Wolcott soon controlled the stock, and under an arrangement with him, M. B. Hartley undertook to carry on the business, but not succeeding, it was abandoned in 1853. For some time after 1854, Lewis Whitmore had a carpenter shop in the building—which again becoming vacant—was next utilized by Elias W. Robbins and James Warner (who bought it) in manufacturing vinegar and "champagne cider." Next, Jas. A. Robbins came in possession and made a storehouse of it. He sold out to S. & E. S. Belden and after being put to several uses—among others, that of a boarding-house for men employed in the construction of the railroad—it was finally burned in 1876.

Before Neff & Williams built the wagon shop on the east side of the road south of the Boundakee, or David Webb house, Wm. Neff had been doing a small business in same line in an old shop on the northeast corner of yard of Jacob Williams' place, later of Justus Robbins, of Roderick Grimes and now of Mrs. Shipman. Neff was the son of Joseph, the pump and block maker at The Landing. John L. Thayer, Henry Olds, Stephen Bliss and Henry Harris also worked with Neff in this old shop.

Oliver Tucker, Elisha Gilbert, Theo. B. Rogers, Benj. Snell, and others learned the wagon making trade with Neff & Williams.

Clock Cases and Pewtering.—In 1841, a building drawn from The Landing to the northeast corner of what (previous to the building of the railroad) was the front yard of the Roderick Grimes residence, was used for a while by Wait Warner, in the manufacture of clock cases. After him Lewis Whitmore made there pewter teapots, block-tin tumblers and cups, etc.; then it was a turning shop, with horse power; then a bedstead manufactory; then a carpenter shop, until it was finally burned.

Pewter and Tin Ware.—A little over an hundred years ago, Capt. Thos. Danforth, of Rocky Hill, manufactured pewter and tin goods,

mostly for the Southern trade—using horse power for his machinery. Among his apprentices was Ashbel Griswold, a native of Rocky Hill (b. 1784), who, in 1808, went to Meridan and there began the making of block-tin goods, and ultimately became one of the first promoters of the Britannia ware industry, since grown into an important line of manufacture in that town. He died in 1853, wealthy and respected. The northeast of the Centre Corners in Rocky Hill was the Thomas Danforth place.

Tinware.—Near Talcott A. Arnold's residence, about 1825, Russell and Jalon Dickinson made up tin ware for travelling tin peddlers; a Dr. Ritter had his offices and drug shop here for a time; went to New York in the business of putting up medicine chests for ships. Orrin B. Porter for several years from 1845 was also engaged in the tinware manufacture. The same shop was at one time on the Dr. Hosford place.

Tailoring.—About 1798, a Stillman built the present Wait Warner house and had his tailor shop in the north front room; he married a daughter of Dr. Aaron Hosford, as early as 1786; and in the early part of this century, Dea. Seth Hart, who lived about opposite where Mr. Riley's smithy now is, had a small shop just east of his house where he did tailoring.

Hatters.—Near the northeast corner of Miss Belinda Goodrich's home lot, lower end of Prospect Street, Revillo Chapman from 1820 to 30 had a hatter's shop, mostly for village use. Chapman succeeded Timothy Clarke, who then carried on the hatter's business up to 1819, when he left and became one of the first settlers of Cleveland, Ohio. John Bulkely learned the hatter's trade in this shop.

Broom Making has been carried on in the winters for the last forty years, till lately, by Talcott A. Arnold in a shop near his residence, east side of Hartford Avenue, generally making up his stock on shares, for the raisers. This industry is now gone—as no one raises broom corn. During summers, he is a ship caulker. Before him, "Squire Bill" (Wm. Robbins, 2d) made brooms at his home, next north of the "Rocky Hill Hotel" property. Alfred Bailey was another who made brooms. The output of brooms made in Rocky Hill in 1845 was 3,500—as broom corn was formerly largely raised in this section.

Previous to 1810, Theodore Blinn was the only person in this section who made *plows*, which were quite different from those now made. Mr. John Williams had one of Blinn's plows that weighed 200

pounds. Its beam was a stick of white oak, six inches square. It took five yoke of oxen and a pair of horses to plow with it in new land, and it would root up stumps of six inches diameter. The boards of these plows were of wood nosed with wrought iron. In using the larger sizes, in stumpy ground, the body of a cart was taken off, and the plow hitched to the axle. Mr. Blinn's shop was on the Cabull road, east of the hill, the eighth of a mile west of the Shunpike.

Cooper Shop.—In 1809, Elnathan Butler had a cooper's shop down by "the gate," at the south line of the town. About 1800, and before, Hez. Whitmore had a cooper shop on the point of land north of Oliver Pomeroy's store, about where is Mr. Hurlbut's horse-shed—coopering for vessels at wharves. Later, Mr. W. had a shop at his residence where Robert Sugden, Jr., lived later.

The Pierce Hardware Co.—In 1881, a number of citizens of this place, by an ownership subscription, bought the Candee property at The Landing and built on it the huge foundry building now there, and which cost, outside of the engine, boilers and shafting, about \$11,000. About \$6,000 was raised by subscription and the buildings mortgaged for \$5,000, to Jonathan Webster, of Berlin, Conn. The concern was sold to A. B. Heart & Co., of Middletown. They put in an engine, and after a short time induced a Mr. Maltbie, of Waterbury, to invest in it; failed after eighteen months, and the buildings reverted to the subscribers of the building fund. Heart & Co. manufactured hatchets, blankets, door bolts, cast-iron goods, etc. The Webster mortgage was foreclosed and possession taken for the mortgage. The plant remained idle till 1884, when a new company was organized under the above name. This company now occupies the building, for the manufacture of cast iron "non-boil-over" kettles, brackets, door hangings, etc. Capital stock \$40,000. *President*, Clinton B. Davis; *Treasurer*, Samuel Dimock; *Secretary*, J. W. Camp, Jr.; *Superintendent*, Chas. E. Pierce. In March, 1886, an enameling furnace was put up for lining iron kettles, etc., by especial process. The company is said to be now doing a profitable business in the same establishment, in the manufacture of sundry articles of hollow hardware. But the leading occupation of Rocky Hill people is agricultural; and their productions are much the same as those of the parent township.

SOCIETIES, ETC.—Free Masons.—The charter to Columbia Lodge, No. 25, was granted May 18, 1793, to Asa Denning, Benjamin Ames, William Nott, Selah Francis, Oliver Goodrich, Andrew M. Combe,

Roger Riley, Jason Boardman, Richard Riley, Enos Robbins, Jason Robbins and John Nott. The lodge was instituted at Stepney at the Long Tavern of Josiah Grimes, on June 26, of the same year.

Captain John Nott was the first Master and was commander of a war vessel on Long Island Sound in 1777. Most of the charter and new members were sea captains, merchants, officers of militia, doctors, etc. John Nott, William Nott, Oliver Goodrich and Jason Boardman were sea captains; Asa Deming, merchant; Roger Riley, saddler—men in their day of no little consequence in the community.

The lodge was convened for the second time at Josiah Grimes' house July 10, 1793, when "Brother Gideon Wells was passed to Fellow Craft." Josiah Grimes' house was a tavern and stood where the Rocky Hill freight depot now is, and was known as the "Long Tavern," being a long building, one end wood, the other brick.

The lodge met at Brother Selah Francis', who seems to have been secretary at this time, December 19, 1793, pursuant to adjournment, at 4 o'clock p. m., and voted to pay him five shillings per night for room and firewood, to be paid quarterly. At the first annual election of officers, held January 1, 1794, "Brother John Nott was continued in the chair and Brother Selah Francis chosen secretary."

May 4, 1796, Asa Deming was chosen second Worthy Master. January, 2, 1799, the lodge held its meeting at the hall in the house of Capt. John Marsh, on Ferry Street. Some meetings were held at Simeon Williams' (now the Wait Robbins') tavern; also, at Mrs. Prudence Bulkely's house—probably the Capt. Charles Bulkely house, next north of T. A. Arnold's. In 1814, the home of the lodge was transferred to South Glastonbury. On May 18, 1893, the lodge held its Centennial meeting at South Glastonbury, when the Worshipful Master, W. H. H. Miller, read an historical address.

Ashlar Lodge was instituted here in 1874, but owing to some informalities in its working, was deprived of its charter, after about a year's existence. Its home was, at one time, in the house now occupied by Wm. A. Brown, and later at Lewis F. Wright's residence. Rev. Chas. H. Webster was Worshipful Master; Chas. G. Beaumont, Senior Warden; Joel K. Green, Junior Warden; Geo. W. Hewitt, Senior Deacon; Wm. H. DeWolf, Junior Deacon; Jas. Warner, Secretary, Daniel H. Medbury, Treasurer; Wm. R. Bulkely, tiler.

Good Templars.—Valley Lodge, No. 133, organized in Rocky Hill, 25 February, 1870, numbered 35 members at the first installation, and rapidly increased to about one hundred. The promotion of total abstinence from liquors was its prime object, and literary exercises

and musical entertainments were accessories to the main end. Its meetings were held in Academy Hall, for four years, when, from one cause and another, its membership (which was from Rocky Hill, Cromwell, South Wethersfield, Griswoldville and South Glastonbury) decreased and its last session was held 31st March, 1874.

Agricultural Club.—Organized about 1861, proposed for its object an annual Autumn exhibition of agricultural, horticultural, promological and dairy products and machinery and implements, together with art and fancy work displays. Its *one only fair*, held in the Conference Room of the Congregational Church was interesting and promising, but its life was strangled by suspicions of some ulterior political designs.

About 1850, or perhaps earlier, was organized *The Elderly Ladies' Knitting Society of Rocky Hill*, with the objects of charitable work and mutual cultivation. Rev. Dr. Chapin drew up its Rules, and Mrs. C. was its first president; its work was the knitting of woolen socks and stockings, sold at a small advance on the cost, or given away to the very needy. The members (mostly connected with the Congregational Church), met weekly at the house of some member, the hostess supplying tea. The members, according to Mr. Chas. Williams' recollection, were the wives of Rev. Dr. Chapin, Dea. Joel Goodrich, Dea. J. G. Dimock, Nahum Wilder, Revilo Chapman, Roderick Grimes, Abijah Collins, Davis Smith, Ackley Washington and Merriam Williams, Geo. and Allen Robbins, Andrew, Horace and Charles Williams, John Bulkley, Alfred Wilcox, Samuel Butler, Gershom Bulkley, William Goodrich, Ephraim Bowers, Linus Deming, Henry Whitmore, Jasper Goodrich. In 1888, there were but three of these then living, viz.: Mrs. Smith, ae. 90; Mrs. Deming, ae. about 85, and Mrs. Chas. Williams, ae. 85. This knitting society was probably the parent of the

The Ladies' Benevolent Society, formed in connection with the Congregational Church, in 1850, and with a membership of 50, having for its objects social intercourse and the collection of funds for the church and missionary purposes. Its meetings, held once in two weeks, have generally been at private houses, until within the past five years, when they have been held in the church parlor. A similar organization is connected with the *Methodist* church here.

Physicians.—The first resident physician of Rocky Hill, was—as far as we can learn—Dr. AARON HORSFORD, said to have come from Marlborough. He studied medicine with a Dr. Hull, in Meriden, and married his daughter; located here in 1774, and died 7 April, 1804,

of "suffusion of the lungs" in his 57th year. His granddaughter, Mrs. Wm. Neff, says he had a collegiate education. He resided, for many years, opposite to Wait Warner's present dwelling, and, I think, for a time, in Capt. Charles Bulkeley's house; later in life he built the large house on the east side of the road, just north of where the old meeting house stood, and lately occupied by L. M. Beaumont. In this connection, a story has come down to us, that the Dr. was called up one bitterly cold night, and on going to the door, was told by a man just disappearing around the corner of the house, that the caller had "found a meeting-house astray in the middle of the road, and had stopped his team, to notify the doctor, so that the building might be arrested!"

Dr. JOSEPH HIGGINS died in Rocky Hill, July 18, 1797, of consumption; he had been practicing here some nine years previously, and was a member of the Conn. Med. Society very soon after its organization. He was married here, 10 Dec., 1785, to Nancy (dau. of William) Williams and sister of Wait Williams, and was interred among that family. He had a child named Wait Williams Higgins, who died, but when I came into the town, in 1854, the memory of Dr. Higgins had entirely disappeared.

Dr. Horsford was succeeded by Dr. DANIEL FULLER, from Columbia, who practiced here until his death, 16 Sept., 1843, in his 69th year, of erysipelas. He received the honorary degree of M. D. from Yale College, in 1831, some 27 years after beginning practice here. He is said to have been a very jovial man, full of jokes and a great mimic. He was also a teacher of music—the Church Treasurer's books showing payments to him, at various times, from 1805 to 1816, for "teaching music and leading the choir." He married Mabel (dau. of Simeon) Robbins, of Rocky Hill and lived in the old house nearly opposite the Congregational Church, for a while, which later he exchanged with Capt. Josiah Butler, for the place now owned by Dr. R. W. Griswold, and in this house he died. He left two sons, who removed to New York; and a daughter who married a clergyman named Tyler.

In 1841, Dr. A. W. BARROWS located in Rocky Hill; but, in 1848, removed to Hartford. He was from Ashford, studied medicine with Dr. Welch of Wethersfield, and graduated Y. C.; resided for a time on the Dr. Horsford place, and also on the Dr. Fuller place. He married Ann Freeman, of Mansfield, Conn.

After Dr. B.'s removal, a native of the place, Dr. SYLVESTER (son of Hosea) BULKELEY, who had been practicing several years in Haddam, Cromwell and Berlin, came here and followed his profession until

his death, 1 February, 1857, in his 70th year. He was a graduate of Y. C., of Dartmouth Medical School and resided on Bradford Hill, where he married 1825, his second wife, Nancy (da. of William, Sen.) Bradford of Rocky Hill. A brief biography of him, by Dr. R. W. Griswold will be found in *Conn. State Med. Society Proceedings* for 1857. See, also, our *Bulkeley Genealogy*, Vol. II.

In 1834-5, a Dr. Ritter practiced for a while here, but soon removed to New York.

Dr. RUFUS W. GRISWOLD, author of this chapter, practiced here from 1854, until his death in 1902. See page —, *ante*. His three sons, physicians (Drs. Roger M., Edward H., and Julius) have been mentioned in connection with their father's memoir.

About 1880, Dr. WAIT R. GRISWOLD, then aged 59, came to Rocky Hill. He had, when a young man attended one term of lectures at Yale, and began practice in the western part of the state. During the War of the Civil Rebellion, he served for a short time, as Assistant Surgeon in the Army, then attended lectures in New York City; grad. M. D., and came first to Hartford, thence to Rocky Hill; later, was in the patent medicine business, and died 12 July, 1887, *ae.* 67.

FRANK LOUIS BERR, M. D., a native of Killingworth, Ct., grad. at Med. College in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1871, and came to Rocky Hill in 1884, having previously practiced thirteen years in Middletown, Ct.

Dr. CHARLES E. STANLEY, at one time an Assistant Physician in the State Insane Asylum, at Middletown, a graduate of University of Pennsylvania, 1876, is a native of Rocky Hill; as, also, is Dr. EVERETT S. (son of James) WARNER, graduate of Coll. of Phys. and Surgeons, N. Y. City, 1878, and now practicing in New York City.

Physicians' Fees, in the days of Drs. Horsford and Fuller, were much less than at present, since the cost of living was then much less than it is now. When rye was 25 cents per bushel, potatoes a shilling, and wood \$1.00 per cord, medical visits could be made for much less than now. One of Dr. Fuller's old account books, found in the garret of the house I now occupy, shows visits charged at the rate of the Yankee shilling—16 $\frac{2}{3}$ cents. He practiced here until 1843, by which time the charge for medical visits had risen to 33 and 38 cents, medicine being extra; and Dr. Barrows, who came in 1841, and left in 1848, told me he could not get the price of an ordinary visit above the latter figure. By the time I entered upon practice here, the price had augmented to 50 cents, whereas, in Wethersfield, at the same time, it was 75 cents. The figure for an ordinary obstetric case was \$3, the old fee of the midwives was \$1.00. By 1861, the price for ordinary visits

had become 62 cents, and obstetric cases \$4.00 and \$5.00. About 1861, when war prices came in for everything, the doctor's visit brought him \$1.00 and obstetric attendance \$9.00. The doctor of 75 and 100 years ago, performed twice or three times as much labor for the same money as is required of the doctor of to-day; but, as all sorts of labor were correspondingly low, and the necessities of life were less, he may have been just as well off at the end of the year. There was, at least, much less of "dead-heading" among his patients, and likely more gratitude for his services, than falls to the lot of his successor of 1890-1900.

Nearly, or quite through the period of practice of Drs. Horsford, Fuller and Barrows, medicines were mostly furnished to patients, by prescription, through the drugstore. This may have been the case, even earlier than Dr. Fuller, for there was a small line of drugs kept in the Dea. Seth Hart house (now gone) opposite Risley's present smith shop, as early as 1800, or before. Dr. Fuller became interested in the drug business in Wait Williams' store, and one of his sons was clerk there. It was continued after the doctor's death, and by Revilo Chapman. Fuller, Barrows and Bulkely sent their customers to this store for nearly all their medicines—thus making an extra bill for families of the sick, and giving them the trouble of going to the drug-shop about as often as the doctor made his visits. During the latter part of Dr. Fuller's life, the "Thompsonian" practice came into this region; also, "steam doctoring." The Thompsonian and the Botanic practice were identical and their practitioners cut the drug-shop, and carried their remedies with them—thus insuring to their patients a saving both of expense and frequent travel—and the resident physicians here lost ground. Hence, when I came here in 1854, I found it expedient to furnish medicines for my own patients. There has been no real drugstore here since, *i. e.*, for the putting up of doctors' prescriptions: but a large amount of proprietary medicines are sold in all the general stores. Thompsonian, Botanic and Steam doctoring, after a few years, fused down into what is now known as the Eclectic System of practice; and still later Homoeopathy usurped the field to some extent.

Midwives.—Previous to 1774, we cannot learn that there was any medical practitioner located in Rocky Hill; the people, of whom by that time there were many, had to resort to Wethersfield proper for medical service. In child-births, the village women-midwives were called upon, as they still are in some sections. The presence of the man-doctor in the lying-in room was then considered neither proper, or necessary. The earliest woman midwife in Rocky Hill, of whom we have any trace, was "Granny Griswold"—or Mrs. Mercey, second wife of Josiah Gris-

wold, who lived in the old village inn which stood nearly opposite the Edmund Bulkeley house, a little south of the existing (1880) Daniel Warner house, now owned by Justus L. Bulkeley. She died, November 3, 1819, *ae.* 82, and followed her calling until quite late in life, and probably was present at the birth of hundreds of the early Rocky Hill people. Dea. Jared G. Dimmock (who was connected with the family) relates of her that an inquisitive urchin of some eight or ten years, Chester Holmes by name, hearing of the number of babies that came into the world by the old lady's help, once asked her where she got them all, and was answered "out of my chamomile bed in the garden." The next day, Granny found her flower-bed had been completely dug over—the youngster having thoroughly explored it in search of more small children! The Dea. says she had a record of the births she had officiated at—but it has not been preserved to us.

Since from about thirty or forty years before 1850, two women divided the honors at this end of the town, *viz.*: Mrs. OLIVER (second wife and widow of Capt. Oliver, Jr.) GOODRICH and Mrs. JAMES BULKELEY, who were familiarly known as "Miss Oliver" and "Miss Jim." These two old ladies officiated at a great many births, the former was the more immediate successor of Granny Griswold; the latter had some calls up to about 1857. Among these was the wife of Walter Robbins, 1854, (calling in the services also, of Dr. Bulkeley), who was delivered of three children—all now living—at one confinement, being the only triplet case known of in the town.

In 1874, there died, in the West District, where she had mostly resided, and at the age of 80, a noteworthy old woman, generally known as "Aunt KATE WRIGHT." Late in life she married for her second husband, Alvin Collins, who lived in the little old house opposite the Nehemiah Stevens' place. Aunt Kate had quite a reputation as a doctor, and with her tall gaunt form and sharp ways, was, indeed, a character. She had a deal of knowledge of the medicinal properties of many native plants and roots, and from which she made syrups and decoctions. She compounded a salve (of Burgundy pitch, red precipitate and spirits of turpentine, and sorrel leaves, with perhaps some other ingredient), which had a wide reputation—and with which; together with some other sorrel preparation, she treated cancers (or tumors, which passed under that head), with quite as good results as those attained by "the cancer doctor," with whom all sorts of skin disease and outside sores are called cancers. She also furnished women approaching child-birth confinement, with what she called "papoose root," to render labor easy. The matron who had an easy labor, not hav-

ing taken this remedy, attributed her good fortune to kindly nature, and was right; whereas if she had taken "papoose root" she would have credited the easy labor to Aunt Kate's mixture. Out of this ease of human credulity, and without any analysis of the philosophy connected with the supposed virtues of the article used, "papoose root" had, of course, a local celebrity; and, as the old lady was shrewd enough not to disclose what the root really was, she preserved her reputation as a useful member of society—and her secret departed with her life.

Though it is a little outside of the historical to enquire what were the average results to mothers and children, of this midwife attendance at confinements, it is to be noticed that, studying the mortuary lists of the parish since 1775, (the period at which "causes of death" began to be appended to the names of deceased, on the records) the words, "in child bed"—"in childbed confinement,"—occur with a frequency much in excess of the mortalities from the same cause, as recorded in the present day. This fact is significant.

Indians.—It does not appear that the region now known as Rocky Hill had any especial Indian name, or that there was within its limits any Indian village or settlement. It may, indeed, be doubted if there was any such settlement within the limits of the original town of Wethersfield. Evidence, however, point to an Indian settlement along the Mattabesett River, at and south of Beckley Quarter, in Berlin. The sub-tribe at this point were known as the Mattabesetts—a branch of the Wongunks, whose hunting grounds and nominal ownership extended over the region on both sides of the river as far south as the straits below Middletown—which latter place bore the name of Mattabesett. Sowheag was apparently the Sachem of this whole region; Judge Adams thinks his seat, or home, was at Beckley Quarter; basing his conjecture upon the fact that Sowheag's successor, Tarramuggus, in 1670, sold to Richard Beckley, the Settler, 300 acres of land lying around the Mattabesett, at that point near the southwest corner of Wethersfield, but now in the town of Berlin. But, the aborigines ranged at large and hunted over the present Rocky Hill territory. Small game was abundant in the woods, the streams were well stocked with fish. Dividend Brook, below the falls of the Beckley mill site was then doubtless full of shad, and alewives, in the spring, could be easily caught at that spot. Goffe's Brook, at about where the bridge now is, was a favorite resort of "whops" during the spring freshets, and we may reasonably suppose that the Indians fished out quantities of them every season, since this place has continued to be a favorite fishing place down to within twenty years. Beaver, musk-rat and mink

were abundant along the streams and in the meadows; woodchuck were on the hillsides and skunks in the plains; rabbits and squirrels peopled the woods; patridges were plenty in the bushes and quail in the open, and the wild turkey had not quite departed. It was upon such that the Indian depended far more for his sustenance than upon what he raised from the ground; work was not his *forte*, and occupied but little of his time or attention.

Slaves.—The records of Stepney parish mention in May, 1768, the marriage of Dick, servant of Elias Williams, and Rose, servant of David Webb; October 10, 1782, of Newport, servant of Elisha Callender and Rose, servant of Elisha Wolcott; August 29, 1789, of Thomas Palmer, a free negro, and Jinny, servant of John Robbins, Esq. These marriages were like those of their white masters, and the ceremony was performed by the minister of the parish. Regular marriages like these seem to have been of rather rare occurrences, the connection of the slaves being more often of a left-handed nature. The mortuary record gives the death in 1781, of Frank, servant of Samuel Foster; in 1785, of Dick, servant of Elias Williams; in 1788, of Lucy, servant of Moses Williams; in 1793, a negro child in the family of Jacob Riley (Riley having a family of slaves, some of whom were in his care, off and on, through the first quarter of the present century); and in 1800, of Rose, black servant of Captain William Griswold.

These black chattels are never spoken of in the record as *slaves*, but always as "servants."

Slaves are first mentioned in 1690; but in 1672, the General Court decreed: "That if any *servant* shall flee from the Tyranny or Cruelty of his, or her, master, to the house of any Inhabitant of the same Town, they shall there be protected and sustained till due Order be taken for their relief."

In a report made to the Home Government, from the Colony in 1680, it was said: "And for Blacks, there comes sometimes 3 or 4 in a year from Barbadoes; and they are sold usually at the rate of 22 li [\pounds ?] apiece, sometimes more and sometimes less, according as men can agree with the masters of vessels, or merchants that bring them hither."

The *Boston Gazette*, of July 30, 1764, (three months before *The Connecticut Courant* was founded) had this item:

"We hear from Rocky Hill, Conn., that a negro belonging to Mr. Boundykee [Brandagee in the present spelling], having been offended, took a knife and flint, and ran up to the garrett, where there was a half barrel of powder, and struck fire therein, which blew the negro and the roof of the house into the air, and tore him to pieces; and a

man in the house saw him strike fire once, which did not catch, and saved himself by running down stairs just before the explosion."

This house which had its roof blown off stood where the south end of the front building of the Pierce Hardware Company now does, and was burned in 1876. When the railroad was built through here, in 1871, the bones of a man were unearthed a few rods below the scene of this incident; and they were believed to be those of that suiciding negro servant of 1764.

It is notorious that many New England bottoms, all along down through the last century, were used in the slave trade. Vessels left New England ports for Lisbon or the Canary Islands "and a market," and the *market* was the west coast of Africa, and the return cargo a load of blacks for West India ports or the Southern ports of the Colonies. This business was of a clandestine character, but was winked at, and not reckoned morally criminal. In the burying ground at Rocky Hill is a tombstone on which is cut—Captain Richard Dunn of Newport, R. I., died 1791, aged 69. Captain Dunn's daughter Mary married Alexander Grimes of Rocky Hill, and the captain spent his last days here and died here. It is of tradition among the people now living here who were born in the first quarter of the last century, that Captain Dunn had made a fortune in the slave trade, but had lost it before coming to Rocky Hill to spend his last days. Narragansett bay was the home of many vessels surreptitiously engaged in transporting blacks from Africa. Whether or not the same sort of trade was carried on from the wharves of Rocky Hill cannot be known; but the probabilities are that some of it was done, for the good people here were not less enterprising than other New Englanders, and quite as ready to make an honest dollar. If a vessel out of the Connecticut was gone six or nine months on a trading voyage, only the crew and the owners knew where she had cruised to.

It is of some interest to note that the negroes, whether slaves or freed, did not sit in the meeting house in either the body of the building below, or in the galleries. In the present building of the Rocky Hill Ecclesiastical Society a special sort of box or stall was made for them. This was high up behind the singer's gallery, and at the farthest possible remove from the pulpit. It was the same in nearly all New England meeting houses. Provision was made for the blacks to go and hear the preached gospel on the Sabbath; but this was probably rather more for the purpose of knowing where they were on Sunday than with the hope of doing them special good; for our forefathers of that day hardly appreciated the possibility that the negro had a soul worth

saving, nor, as Justice Taney expressed it in the Dred Scott case, did they recognize that he had "any right which a white man was bound to respect," though they were, without doubt, as comfortably cared for by the owners as any white hired man or woman, and often supported when they were past rendering any service.

There is not much doubt that these "blacks" from Barbadoes or other West India Islands were inveigled on board vessels with the promise of transportation to freedom, and sold as slaves, on the arrival of the vessel home. The conscience of the white master or mistress was less disturbed over such a transaction than it would have been over the theft and sale of a horse. Our "forbears," both those who were godly and prayerful, and those who were rough and blasphemous, though tenacious for freedom for themselves and ready to fight for it, seemed to be oblivious of the fact that a "nigger" had any right to the same glorious heritage. What the nigger needed was a master to take care of him.

In 1730, the number of slaves, Indians and negroes, in the Colony was estimated at about 700. In 1756, there were 3,587 blacks and in 1774, 6,464, and in that year further importation of slaves into the Colony was prohibited. This, however, troubled our worthy captains and merchants very little, since the Southern Colonies afforded a readier and better market for this kind of stock. It is worthy of note, in connection with this prohibitive legislation, that the reason assigned for it in the preamble to the act was that "the increase of slaves in the Colony is injurious to the poor, and inconvenient." That there was any turpitude in the existence of slavery, seems not to have occurred to the legislators, or else the thought was concealed beneath the consciousness of what was best for his own material interest.

Tobacco.—Mention has been made of tobacco as one of the products of the early settlers in the Connecticut valley. I suppose some was grown here. The General Court in 1753, passed this vote:

"That each town in this colony wherein tobacco is or shall be raised for exportation shall at their annual town-meetings for electing town officers, choose two or more fit persons to be surveyors and packers of tobacco for the year ensuing, who shall carefully survey and search the tobacco by them to be packed, and shall cull out and report all such brands of tobacco as are in whole or in part damaged by the infusion of anything liquid, or by being kept too moist, or by frost, heat or by any other means whatsoever; and shall pack or press no tobacco but what is by him judged to be sound, well ripened, sufficiently cured, and every way good and merchantable."

It does not appear that very large amounts of tobacco were sent from here in the earlier days of our history. When the manufacture of cigars was introduced, it was the custom in many families for the women to employ their leisure time, from domestics duties proper, in cigar making. The stemming of the leaves, and the sorting of wrapper from filler, the cutting out and the rolling, were done by the same work-woman. Much of the tobacco grown was "made up" in this way and the cigars were traded off at the stores for such groceries as the family needed. This domestic manufacture continued down to the opening of the civil war of 1861. These home-made products were commonly known as "barn-yard cigars". They answered just as good purpose in making a nasty mouth as the finest grades of Havanas.

Onions.—A considerable share of the onions raised here and sent off by one and another mode of conveyance were "bunched." The bunching of onions seems in a fair way to become one of the lost arts of farm life in Connecticut. The work was mostly done by the women. Onions were so "stripped" (that is deprived of the wilted top) as to leave a shriveled stem of about one and a half to two inches long. In bunching, the large onions were thrown out to be sold by the bushel. Seated on the barn or corn-house floor, with an old skirt tied around the waist and over the every-day dress, to keep off some part of the dirt, with her legs extended straight out in front, a pile of onions at the left hand and a bundle of rye straw cut to about twenty-two inches in length, a ball of twine and an old case knife, the woman was ready to begin work. Taking ten or a dozen straws and clasping them together, the twine was wound half a dozen times around the large end of the bundle; this formed the core. The woven end of the core was thrust between the legs, so that the core stood straight up its full length. With the left hand an onion was picked up and its stem laid against the straw; with the right hand, the twine was carried once around the core, including in the wind the stem of the onion; a second onion was treated in the same way, and so on, building up a four cornered "string" of the length of sixteen to twenty inches; the larger onions used being put at the bottom and the smallest at the top, on a gradual taper. The twine was fastened at the top by pulling it four or five times between the straws; and the bunch was thus finished. The workwomen were paid so much the hundred bunches.

As this work was no impediment to conversation, the women were fond of bunching, with half a dozen around the same heap. Then they sized up the parson, dissected the doctor, castigated the school teacher, ham-strung the singing master, weighed the grocery man, measured the

tailor, waxed the cobbler, and hammered the blacksmith. What was not discussed was not worth talking about in that bailiwick. To the male philosopher who sat on the up-turned half-bushel measure and stimulated the conversation by an occasional leading observation on men and things in the village, there was more room for fun than is afforded by any modern circus.

The "weeding" part of the raising of onions and garlic, up to 25 years ago, was done by the women, who in the performance of that duty, crawled along upon their hands and knees. Very few of the farmers' wives and daughters were too aristocratic to weed onions; and their labor in that direction was a most important help to thrift in the family. Nowadays, however, a woman in the onion field, would be almost a curiosity. This change is due, partly, to progress in the condition of the female part of the population; and partly to the fact that the labor is not as remunerative, as formerly; for it is a truth that the soil has, during the past 30 years, lost some of its former productive quality for onion raising—though some are still grown. Up to about 1850, onions were sown in drills, by hand; the women crawling over the ground to scatter in the seed. But, about that time, seed-sowing machines came into use, and greatly abridged the labor. Carrots, parsnips, beets, cabbage and lettuce were often grown with the onions.

Onions had become a considerable article for export from here, and some other places in the state, (Wethersfield being early famed for this product) before 1750. In 1760, the General Court made this enactment: "Whereas there are great quantities of onions raised in this Colony for a market, and it is become a custom to make up the greatest part of them in ropes or bunches, and no rule has been fixed for the number, weight, or measure, contained in each bunch, for want of which great inequality and injustice hath happened; for remedy whereof

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same: That for the future no onions shall be offered for sale that are not good and merchantable, well cured and dry, nor shall any bunches of them be sold or offered for sale, or put into any land or water carriage to be transported to market that are not fully cured, well and firmly bunched, and of five pounds weigh at least." The penalty for selling or offering for sale, or transport any bunched onions that did not meet this requirement was "sixpence for each bunch that shall fall short of the weight aforesaid." In 1821 a similar enactment was made, with the difference that the weight of the bunches was put at three pounds and a half, and they were to be inspected by a legally chosen inspector. What attention, after the

last named date, was paid to the law, I cannot learn; but it was not very long after that time that each owner had his onions roped to suit himself, and bargained them off without inspection save by the purchaser. There was a large difference made in the size of the bunches; and when the crops of the different farmers were put into the same vessel-load and sent off to be sold on commission, it was often the case that the large bunches of one man helped to sell the small ones of another, and the better bunches returned no more money. Up to steamboating days, bunched onions were counted out of the carts on to the deck of the vessel at the dock, or into the hold, and shipped, off in bulk; in later years many of the ropes were packed in barrels and headed up. This was for greater facility in handling. The larger onions were commonly shipped in barrels, and were also headed in.

Old Trees.—The elms on the west side of Main St., from the Centre School House north to the Chester B. Goodrich lot and south to the Church, were set out about 1862, by Rev. Geo. Muir Smith. The trees on Old School-House Park and around the corner northeast and northwest were set out by Dr. Rufus W. Griswold from 1862-66, and the park leveled up and filled in in places. There is here a mixture of elms, maples, ash and horse chesnuts.

The elms on the triangle of the M. E. Church property, were set out by some members of that Society, at about the same period. The old elms on Elm St. have been there many years—probably about 1810, and very likely at the instigation of Rev. Dr. Chapin, who was ever active in all matters of public importance. Mr. Merriam Williams was associated with him in this work.

A fine double row of shade trees, for about three-fourths of the length of New France, or Farms St., set out, about 1850, by the dwellers on that street, render it one of the most delightful roads in the town. The elms in front of Chester Goodrich's barn were set out by him, in 1840 and 1845; and those across the street in front of the Levi-Robbins-Riley place, were probably set out by Mr. Robbins.

The fine sycamores in front of the Capt. Daniel A. Mills place, are probably now 75 or 100 years old, and the fine group of 4 sycamores, near Lewis Whitman's joiner-shop, on the turnpike, are probably of nearly the same age; and there are some good specimens of the tree in front of the Bradford Hill house. The sycamore is not indigenous, the original in this country having been imported from England.

The row of large old maples, inside the fence of the Squire Joseph Bulkeley homestead, were doubtless set out by him as far back, or before 1800, as also the large elm in front. About the same time,

probably, were set the fine row of maples on south side of South St., on the Elias Williams' homestead—most of which have been cut down within the last two decades of years. The row originally extended to where the residence of Edward Allen, deceased, now stands.

The trees along the bank, east of the traveled road on Hartford Ave., from the Morton property north to the hotel, are some of them a hundred years old; and near Mr. Deane's smith-shop is a (live) sycamore stump measuring 21 ft. circumference, three ft. from the ground and 8 ft. up, where it begins to branch, 23 ft.

WAYS OF LIVING.—*In the Olden Time.*—The "living" of the people of the parish for the first 150 years was very plain. Of wild game and fish they had a good supply. One of the most common dishes was "bean porridge." This was usually made of salt beef and pork boiled with beans to a mush, and seasoned with herbs. Of tea and coffee they had very little till the latter part of the 18th century. From 1650 to 1750, the chief drinks, after water, were milk and home brewed beer. The brewing of beer was in most families as regular a part of the domestic life as the making of rye bread. From after about 1750, apple orchards had come into full bearing, and cider began to take the place of beer as a steady drink on the table. The apples grown were mostly cider-fruit, very few were winter-keepers. Large orchards were without a tree of winter apples; and it was not till down after 1800 that winter-keeping apples were grown to any extent. Butcher carts and fish carts, for peddling, were not known. Farmers killed their own beeves, and salted down what was not consumed fresh. Exchanges of fresh beef, veal, mutton and pork, around the neighborhood, were common. A killed a calf the 1st of April; B another the 1st of May, and C, another the 1st of June, and by "swapping off" the three families used up the three calves. Very much more corn-meal was eaten than now, and it was much better for the health of the people than the fine wheat flour diet of to-day. There were no carpets on the floors; furniture was plain, and not much of it. The common table-ware was pewter; but a few of the most wealthy families boasted of their silver tankards and beakers for family use. Stoves were not known till long after 1800. The long "settle," with its high back to keep off the draught of air from the windows, was hauled around in front or to one angle of the big fire place—seldom less than six feet wide and often eight—and on this the family made itself comfortable in the long winter evenings. The up-stairs sleeping rooms were seldom "done off," and in them was no lack of fresh air. Woolen sheets to sleep in were in general use for winter, and on extra cold nights the long-handled brass warming-pan,

heated with coals from the fire place, was run through each bed before the children crawled in for the night. Whether this style was not better for the health of the youngsters than the heated rooms of the present fashion is an open question. Rubber shoes and boots were things unknown. All our fathers and mothers, till after 1800, depended upon cow-hide for winter wear. Very few of the men wore boots; high shoes were the usual foot wear; these were well filled with beef tallow, to keep out the water. When the snow was deep people pulled on old long stockings, and tied them around the shoes, and in that way kept out the snow. This old stocking was called a "leggin." In warm weather all children, and most adults, went bare-footed. Young women had thin shoes and stockings for Sunday wear; but if they walked to meeting (and very few rode) they *carried* their shoes and stockings to some place not far from the meeting house, then washed their feet and put on the foot gear. Going home, the shoes and stockings were taken off and carried. In this way one pair of shoes lasted longer than six do now. In numerous ways, people studied like economists, and thus became "fore-handed," besides raising their large families of children. The real necessities of life are but few; but as between what the people of even one hundred years ago in our village, and in all New England villages, considered the necessities and what to-day are considered such, there is a long list of articles.

Snow Storm of 1888.—March 11, 12, 13 and 14, 1888, gave western and southern New England and Southern New York what was probably the biggest snow storm of the section since 1717. Rocky Hill had its share of the snow. There was no travel for three days. Snow banks were drifted all the way up from bare ground in some places to depths of 8, 10, 12 and 15 feet. The road to West Rocky Hill was not dug through till Friday of the week after. . . . The potential forces for breaking out roads after snow storms were much better 100 and 150 years ago than they have been in the last 20 years. Those potential forces were of three kinds—first, more young men than now in the farm houses of the town, and nearly all ready for a "lark;" second, three or four times as many yokes of oxen in the place as can be found to-day; and thirdly, open taverns and stores in the village, where free good cheer to the drivers and shovelers was certain to be dispensed when the teams came around. Crackers and cheese, washed down with a hot whisky punch or a mug of flip, were expected at The Landing or at the taverns on Main street, and mugs of cider at the farm houses along the route. With these incitements ahead, "breaking out the roads" after big snow storms was simply *fun* for all the boys. Now, the boys have mostly left for the

larger places; the cattle have become slaughtered, and are not replaced; and the potency of flip and cider is ruled out entirely. As for the last of the three factors in road breakings, it is probably better that it has been mostly banished; nevertheless, snow drifts are not conquered with the readiness and ease witnessed in the older time.

Speaking of the potency of this last named factor, Mr. Williams tells this about his uncle Joshua, an older brother of John. Joshua was a Congregational clergyman, and preached many years in Harwinton, Ct., where one of his daughters married the then Abijah Catlin, a hatter. One time Joshua visited the old homestead and his brother John. After some congratulatory talk the Rev. Joshua asked, if they had "any rum in the house"? "No," said his brother; "but I have some capital home-made gin;" whereupon the decanter was put out, and the young Charles was astonished to see his Reverend uncle take a very big drink. Charles never followed the good uncle's example. Hot toddies did not come amiss to the clergymen of those days.

There is a funny story about Rev. John Joshua and his son-in-law Catlin. Catlin had the habit of frequently quoting the *forcible* words of the Bible. The father-in-law called him to account for the habit. "But you use the same words," said Catlin. "Yes," said Williams, "but I don't use them to swear: I can say 'by God' three times in succession, and not swear." "I'll bet a hat you can't," responded Catlin. "Agreed," said the preacher. The next Sunday, in his pulpit discourse, the Rev. Williams got it in, in a proper place, and in a proper way—"by God we live, by God we breathe, and by God we have our being;" and "by God," said Catlin from his pew, "*you shall have the hat.*"

Rocky Hill Township was incorporated in May, 1843. As early in the century as 1816, there had been an unsuccessful attempt in this direction; and, it may be said that at that date Stepney Parish, both as to houses, population and industrial resources, was quite as well able—if not more so—to take care of itself as an independent community, as it was 27 years later. The enumeration of its population in 1779 was 881, which included such people as may have been north of Goffe's bridge to Dix's Corner, on the main road, but did not include such as may have been living on the road north of the Dea. Joel Goodrich place and thence west to Beckley Quarter, which would quite balance off the people north of Goffe's Bridge—and this enumeration of 1779, it must be remembered, was in the midst of the Revolutionary War, and in a season of great depression. It was after the close of the War that the place began to experience an increase of its maritime business and consequent trade, ship-building and connected industries—and this was

accompanied by an increase of population. From 1780 to 1820 ensued a period full of promise and of indications that the place would become a place of more importance than it has ever been since. Indeed, it *was* then of more importance. The records of the two Library associations established here in 1794-5 show a better list of male adults than could be gathered to-day. There might not have been as many dwellings within the town limits as now; but they averaged more persons to a dwelling; and it is by no means certain that there were not as many houses; for there were houses then standing at several places where are none now. Between 1800 and 1860, it is not likely that there was much, if any, increase of population. There were, indeed, probably more people in the town in 1816, than at the time of its incorporation in 1843. In 1850, the population was 1004; in 1860, it was 1042; in 1870, 1012; in 1880, 1109 and this last enumeration had the benefit of all doubtful cases. The culminating point of Rocky Hill's population was from 1872 to '74, directly after the opening of the railroad—at which time there was a small “boom” and a slight increase (perhaps 150) in the population, taking it up to about 1150, or possibly a little higher. After 1875, some injudicious alteration of the R. R. time-schedules, affecting the convenience of workmen, between Ry-H. and Hartford, destroyed the small evidence of life previously shown and the population began to diminish, until in 1880, it was a little over 1000.

From the figures above given, and from some collateral evidence, it appears that from about 1790, or a little earlier, the population of the place, varying from time to time has only about held its own. Taking all this period together, the natural increase (rather in proportion to the number of inhabitants in the last quarter of the 18th and first quarter of the 19th, than since) has been in excess of the deaths; but, the excess of *emigration* over *immigration* has kept the population about evenly balanced. Whilst we have had, since 1850, an incoming of inhabitants, mostly from Ireland, there has been a corresponding out-going of the descendants of the English first settlers. The homes and acres of the Connecticut Yankee have been passing into the hands of the emigrant from Europe; the children of the former have gone to the City, or to the West, and the character of the population is rapidly changing.

To one looking over the town to-day, and seeing the number of houses that have been erected in the forty years past, there would seem to be a greater increase in dwellings, than the facts would warrant. If we begin at the North end of town, investigation will prove that at places now vacant, there were formerly some 50 dwelling houses.¹

¹ In the period from 1775 to 1825, (1) the Heart house at the meadow gate;

These old buildings once stood, where is now a *vacancy* of all human life and action. The list given does not include those short-lived houses built at a later date and now, also, gone; nor those dwellings standing where new have since been built. It represents *losses* in dwelling houses and serves to show that, in the half century mentioned there was more to the town in almost every way than it can boast of to-day, so far as relates to its material property.

[Dr. Griswold's Mss. contains much more of more modern date concerning Real Estate and Buildings of the period between 1854 and 1885, than our limits will permit of printing in full. He gives a list (with owners' names, date of erection and location) of buildings erected within that period—numbering 97 in all—; and shows that while, for a short period following the building of the railroad through Rocky Hill, there was a great influx of new comers and a correspondingly increase in new buildings—(so that real estate took on correspondingly fancy prices)—yet an unwise lack of accommodation on the part of the railroad, checked the impetus of improvement and relegated the town to its former dullness.—EDITOR.]

(2) the Zebulon Robbins house halfway up the hill; (3) another Robbins house south of where Hiram Baldwin lived; (4) a Boardman house just north of the old one now standing; (5) the Edwards house north of the Neff place; (6) the Goodale house, south of T. A. Arnold's; (7) the Morton house, north of the present brick Morton house; (8) the Belden house opposite Wait Warner's; (9) the Riley house in the corner below; (10) in Meadow Lane, the Mosley house; (11) the Chapman and (12) Callender houses; (13) the Candee house, where the factory is; (14) two houses on the ship yard reservation; (15) the old Hezekiah Grimes' home a little north; (16) the Sophronia Dickinson house west of the R. R. freight depot; (17) the "Long Tavern" north of the R. R. passenger station; (18) the Graham house on Bradford Hill; (19) the Hart house opposite Risley's smith's shop; (20) the Smith house west of the Burying Ground; the Griswold-Hickock house N. of the Burying Ground; (22) Robinson; (23) Shailer; (24) Levi Godrich and (25) Prescott Bulkeley houses below the Burying Ground; the (26) Jagger Bulkeley house north of the South School house; (27) a Butler house near the IX mile stone; (28) a Bulkeley house by the sand bank north of Down Hill; (29) the Collins house on Plains St.; (30) a house on the Russell property on Spring St.; (31) another beyond Michael Rawlings, and (32) one each of Chester Beldens; (33 and 34) Blinn houses on Cabull road; one (35) on the Shunpike opposite the head of Plains St.; (36) the Wright house opposite the head of New Francis St.; (37 and 38) Blinn houses on same St.; (39 and 40) Belden houses at end of same St.; (41) one by the west School house; (42) one opposite the Dea. Williams place; (43) one towards the foot of the hill; (44) the Roger Goodrich house at the turn east of the woods; (45) one south of the west end of Parsonage St.; (46) the old Nott house, first north of the Thos. Robbins-Goff house; (47) a Riley house, south of the Levi Robbins place; (48) an old Wright house, at or near the Andrew Miller place—and probably one or two more not heard of—in all, a *round fifty*—which probably housed some 300 people.

The township contains about 13 sq. miles of territory; is about $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles in breadth from north to south on the east side in a straight line; about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from north to south, through the west district and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from north to south, through its narrow portion next to Berlin and in the Beckley Quarter school district. It is about 5 miles in a straight line from The Landing, at the River, westward to the Berlin boundary, and a little short of that distance on its south or Cromwell line.

The *physical features* of the township are what would be called rolling land. Except the top of Iron Stone Hill and a dozen acres, or so, on the north side of the Plains road in the West District, of sand-blow, there is scarcely an acre of land that is not, or could not be made productive, either as plow, pasture or meadow land, or for productive forest growth. The soil is mostly reddish clay, mixed with vegetable loam, except those parts called The Plains and the section along the turnpike below Cole's Hill, and the Dividend Plains, which approximate to the sandy, but are ordinarily productive.

The *productions* of this turnpike have been hay (especially on the meadows); corn, potatoes, rye, buckwheat, oats, beans, pumpkins and squashes; apples in full quantities, cherries and plums; and, early in its history, flax; for many years considerable quantities of broom corn; for many generations, large amounts of onions and some garlic; but for the past 20 years the production of these two last articles has pretty much ceased; carrots, parsnips, cabbages, turnips in abundance: in later years, most of the small garden fruits, and considerable tobacco.

ERRATA.

- Page 86 line 9, of note. For Gen. "Leonard R. Welles," read Gen. Leonard Welles.
- Page 165, line 13. For "Mohagan," read *Monhagan*.
- Page 174, line 16. For "haywarder's," read haywardens.
- Page 187, line 9, from bottom of page. For "present time," read *until time of his death*.
- Page 192, last line. For "Wm. Hone," read Wm. *House*.
- Page 245, line 4. For "Chapt. XIX," read Chapt. *XVIII*.
- Page 250, line 17. For Weller, read *Welles*.
- Page 253, line 7, from bottom of page. For "Jehu," read *Jehiel*.
- Page 277, line 22. For "France's," read *Francis*'.
- Page 287, line 16. For "appointed," read *appreciated*.
- Page 305, line 24. For "Bronsford," read *Branford*.
- Page 314, line 6. For "Trumbell," read *Trumbull*.
- Page 323, line 16. For "General," read *Genral*.
- Page 329, line 26. For "Chapter XIX," read Chapter *XVIII*.
- Page 378, line 20. Same as above.
- Page 385, line 2. For "Woodridge," read *Woodbridge*.
- Page 411, 4th line from bottom of page. For "1713," read *1763*.
- Page 436, line 13 from bottom, in second column. For "Peckley," read *Beckley*.
- Page 437, line 16. For "Dellapy," read *Dellaby*.
- Page 465, line 11. Insert between end of this line and beginning of next, to *provide for soldiers*.
- Page 466, line 3, second column. For "Wetherwell," read *Wetherell*. Line 22, second column. For "Konte," read *Knote*.
- Page 529, line 15. For "Ashbel," read *Asahel*.
- Page 534, line 26. For "Gershum," read *Gershon*.
- Page 577, line 8. For "Jittsfield," read *Pittsfield*.
- Page 579, line 21. For "David A. Mills," read *Daniel A.*
- Page 586, line 10 from bottom. For "some section," read *same section*.
- Page 594, line 10 from bottom. Insert *m.* between Crafts Wright and Martha.
- Page 617. The *date* of Mr. Wm. G. Comstock's death was 4th Aug., 1899.
- Page 630. The number of prisoners in the State Prison was 473 in 1902.
- Page 631. Line 7 from bottom. After the word "demolished," read *and the village now has a hook and ladder company*, known as "Hope Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1," which is housed in a building erected for the purpose in 1872 or '73.
- Page 664, line 9. "Mix, Dr. Rev.," should read *Rev. and Dr.*
- Page 728, line 22. For "Staltonstall," read *Saltonstall*.
- Page 729, line 25. For "not owned," should read *now owned*.

GENERAL INDEX.

In this Index, the names of the three Towns forming the *Ancient Wethersfield*, are thus abbreviated: Wethersfield, *Weth.*; Newington, *New.*; Rocky Hill, *Ry-H.* Abbreviations used in this work. (p. 15.)

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